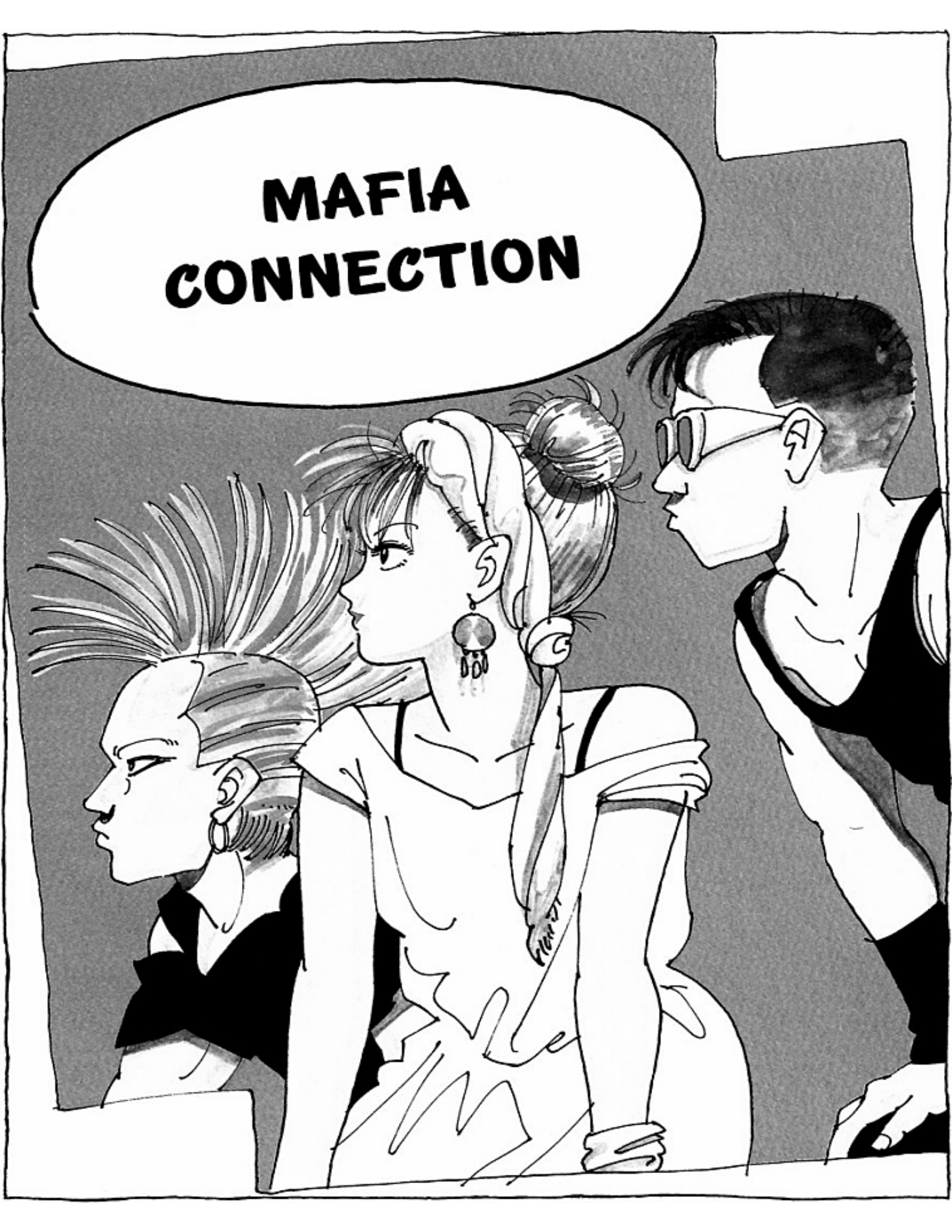
LE LEZARD NOIR

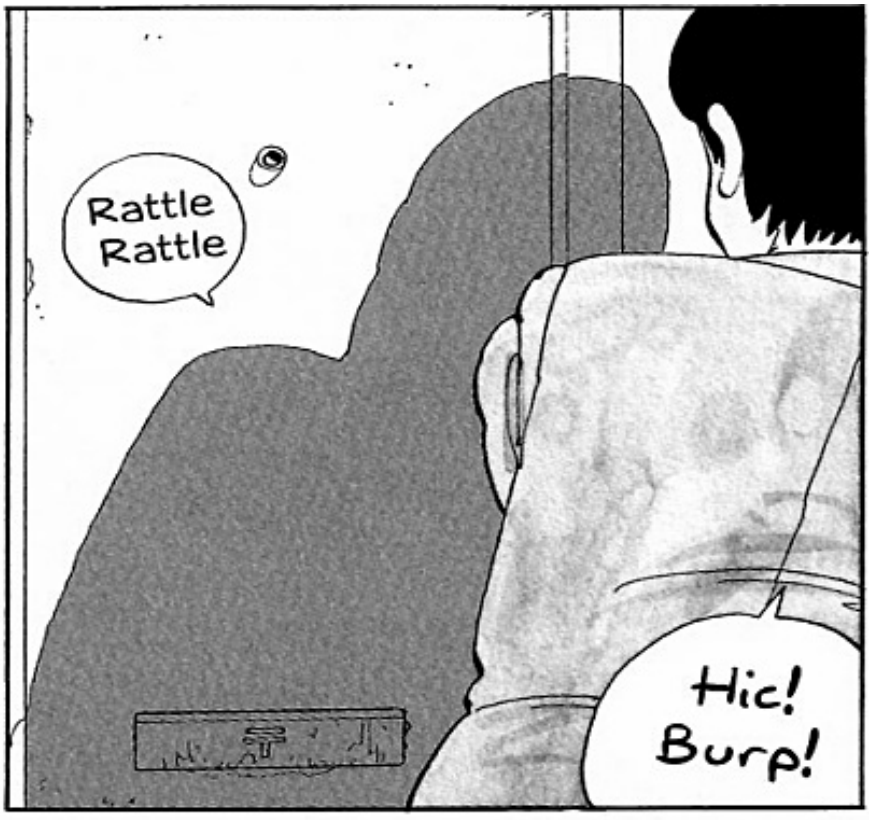
STOP!! HIBARI-KUN!

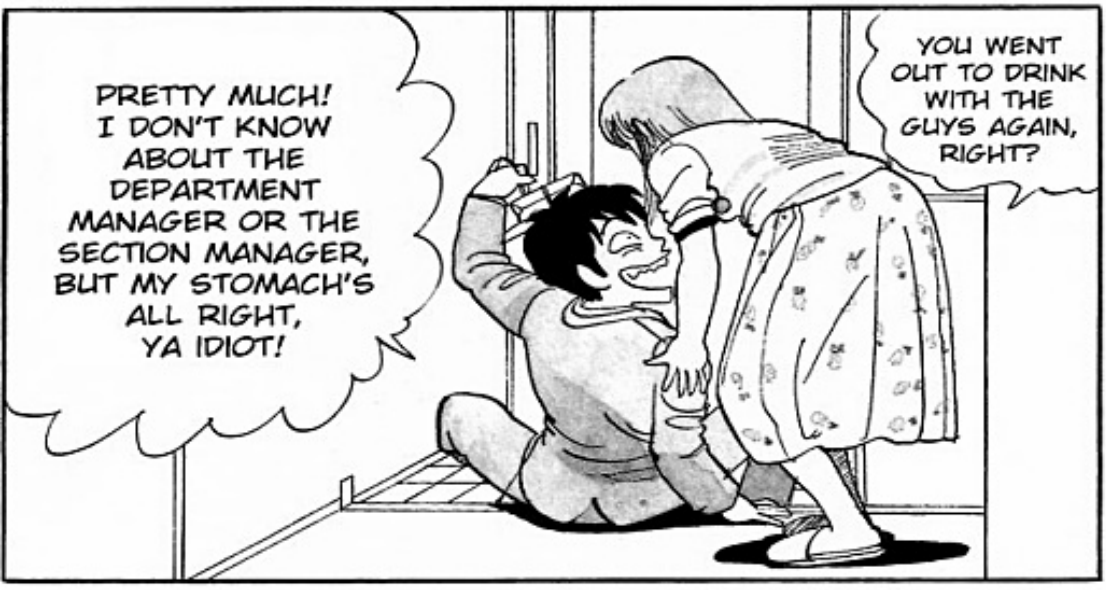
3

HISASHI EGUCHI


MAFIA
CONNECTION

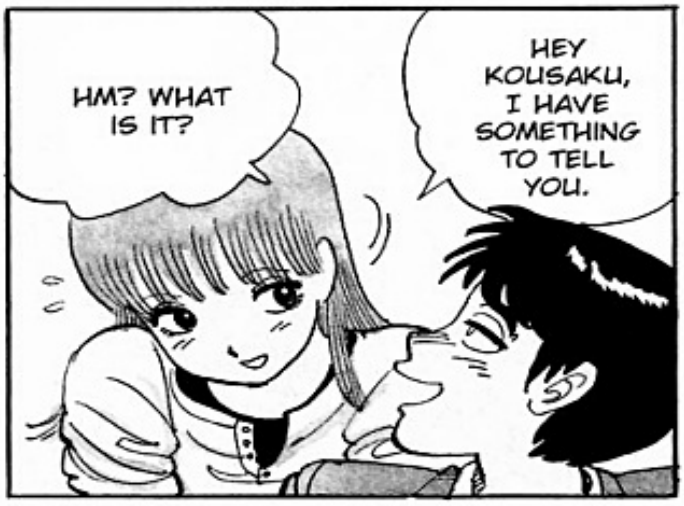
THE MAN OF THE HOUSE IS BACK!
I'M HOME! WEEE!


Rattle Rattle
Hic! Burp!

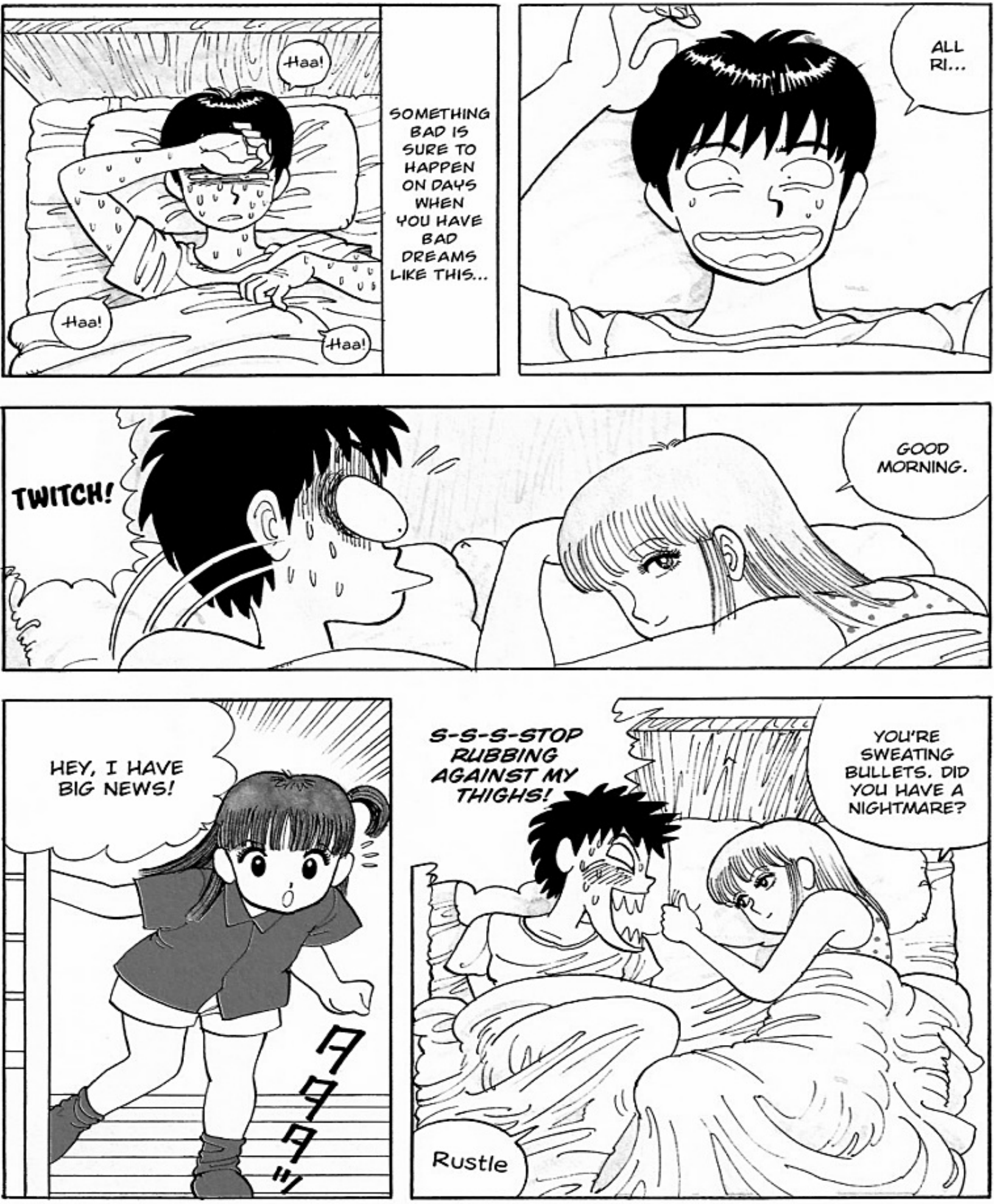

YOU WENT OUT TO DRINK WITH THE GUYS AGAIN, RIGHT?
PRETTY MUCH! I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT MANAGER OR THE SECTION MANAGER, BUT MY STOMACH'S ALL RIGHT, YA IDIOT!

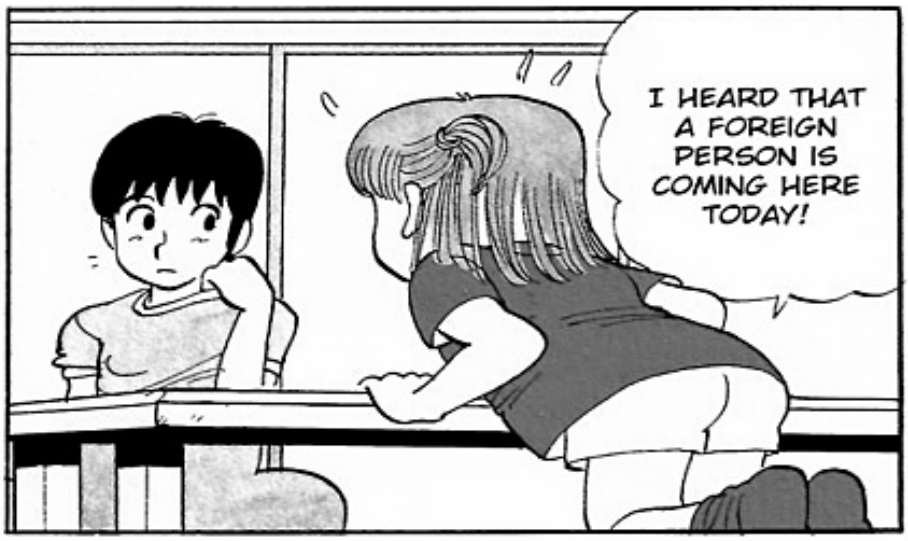
WELCOME HOME!

Blush

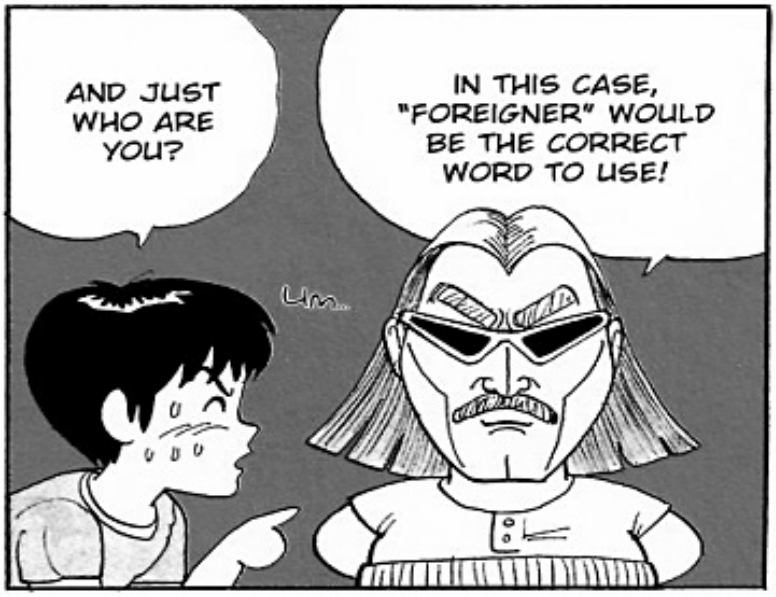

HEY KOUSAKU, I HAVE SOMETHING TO TELL YOU.
HM? WHAT IS IT?

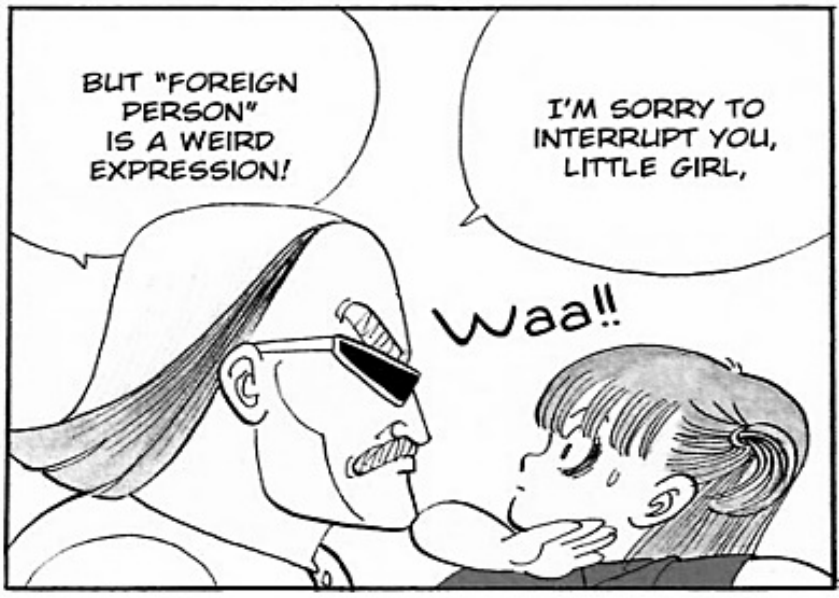
I WENT TO THE HOSPITAL...
TODAY...
WHAT'S WRONG!? WHAT HAPPENED!? WELL!? COME ON, TELL ME!
OH MY GOSH! I'M SO EMBARRASSED!
どたたた
HUH!? EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE NOT FEELING SICK... AH!!
That's so forced!
...IF YOU'RE NOT SICK, WHY DID YOU GO TO THE HOSPITAL?
I'M NOT SICK, STUPID.
HUH!? DID YOUR GRAVES' DISEASE COME BACK!?
The very picture of happiness!!
WE DID IT!!
ALL RIGHT! THAT'S GREAT!
パキーン
グルグル
グルグル
バキッ
D... DON'T TELL ME,
ARE YOU PREGNANT!?
FOR THE PAST THREE MONTHS.


Haa!
Haa!
Haa!
SOMETHING BAD IS SURE TO HAPPEN ON DAYS WHEN YOU HAVE BAD DREAMS LIKE THIS...
ALL RI...
TWITCH!
GOOD MORNING.
HEY, I HAVE BIG NEWS!
タタタ!!
S-S-S-STOP RUBBING AGAINST MY THIGHS!
YOU'RE SWEATING BULLETS. DID YOU HAVE A NIGHTMARE?
Rustle

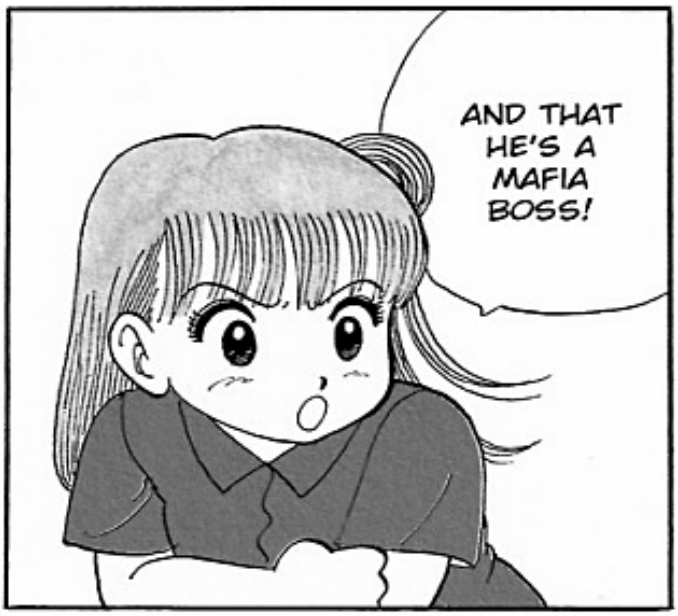


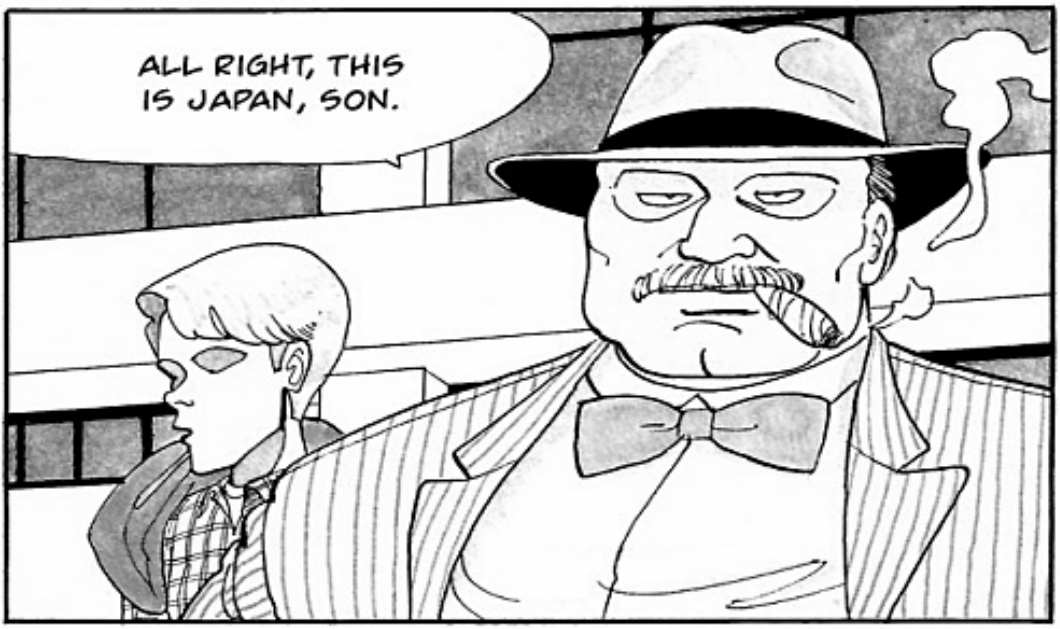
Tsubame-chan cut her hair.



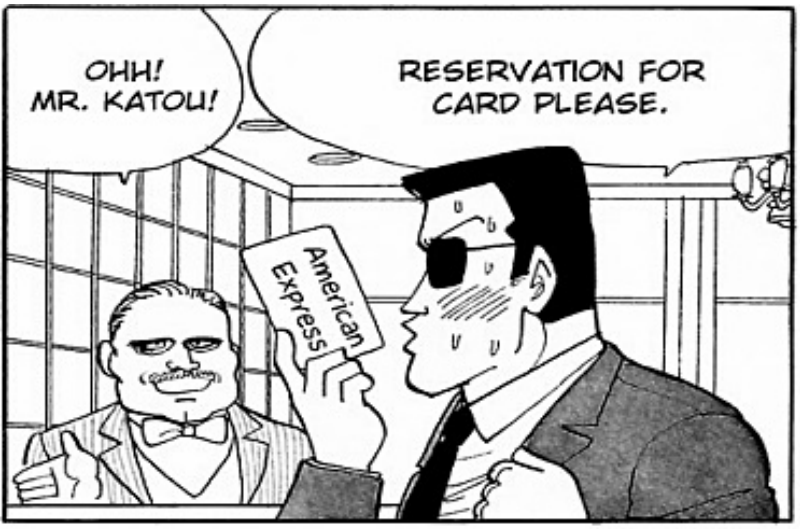


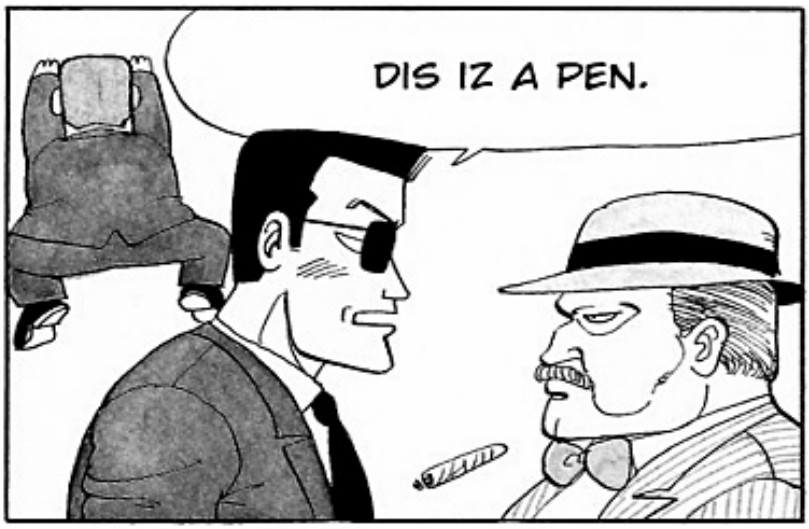
HMM, I DON'T REALLY KNOW, BUT I HEARD THAT HE'S AN OLD FRIEND OF DAD'S,
Don't be ridiculous.
THEY'RE HERE TO MAKE FRIENDS, OF COURSE!
...SO, WHO IS THIS FOREIGNER? WHERE ARE THEY FROM? AND WHAT DO THEY HAVE TO DO WITH US?



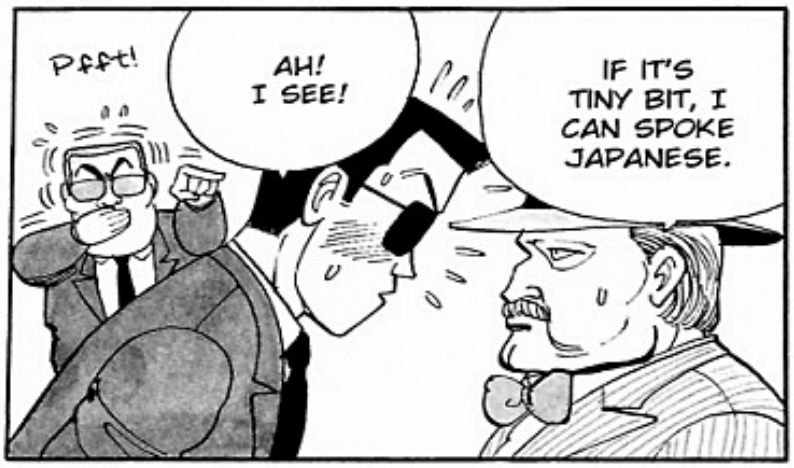


Sign: Narita Airport



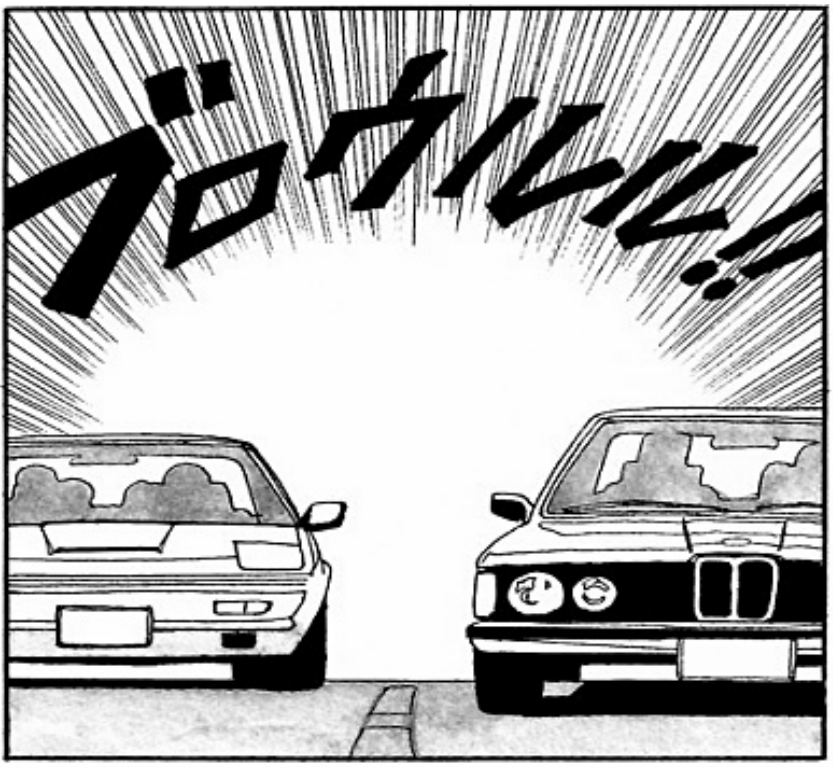


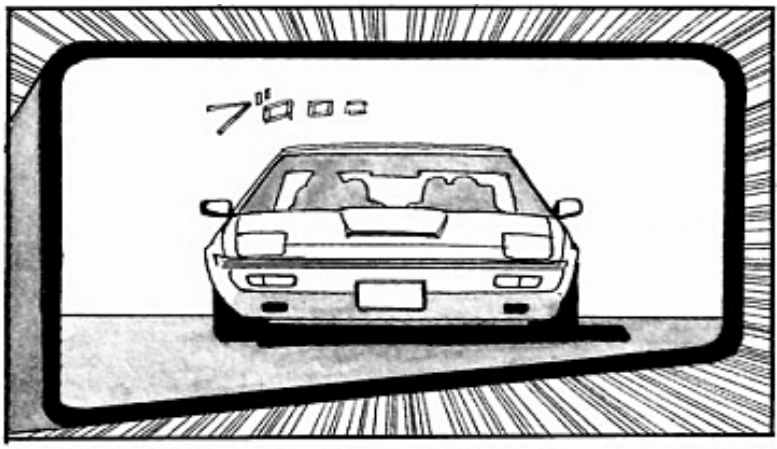
↓It seems like he's trying to speak Japanese.



MOTHRA AND GODZILLA AREN'T HERE!
WHAT'S GOING ON!? THIS IS TOTALLY DIFFERENT FROM WHAT I LEARNED IN SOCIAL STUDIES!! IT'S NO DIFFERENT HERE THAN IN AMERICA!
WELL... HE'S BIT MISTOOK ABOUT JAPAN.
W...WHAT IS YOUR SON SO EXCITED ABOUT?

WHAT!? THERE ARE CARS EVEN IN JAPAN!? YOU AREN'T BEING CARRIED AROUND BY MONKEYS!? HEY, YOU! WHY DON'T YOU HAVE A TOPKNOT!? WHERE'S THE SHOGUN!? WHERE IS HE!?


ブロロロロ!!!

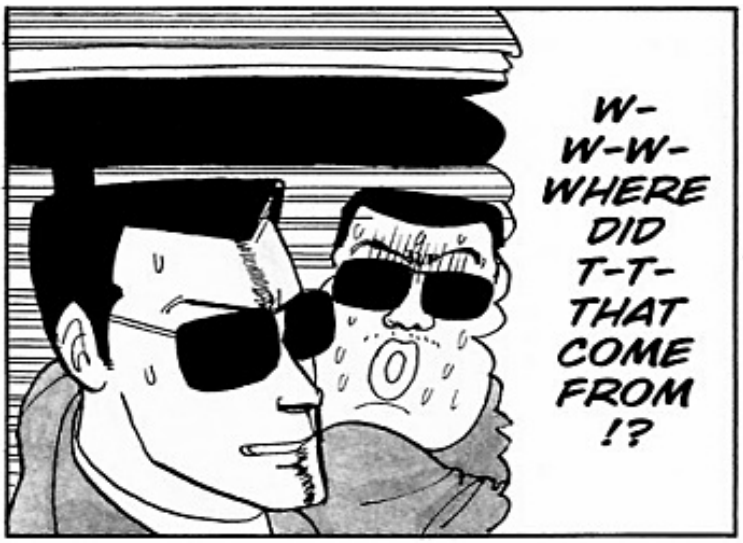

ブロロ

THAT CAR'S BEEN FOLLOWING US SINCE NARITA.

Toss

WHOA!

Grab

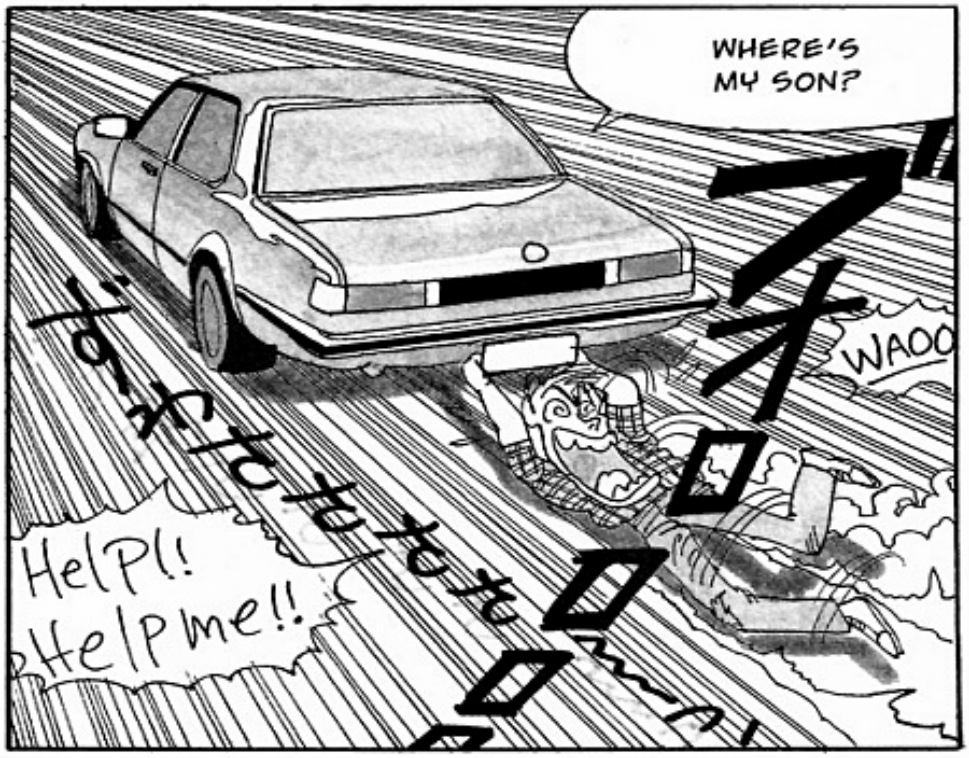

W-W-W-WHERE DID T-T-THAT COME FROM !?

Pompf

KILL YOU

HUH...!?

ARE YOU OKAY, MR. CORLEONE?

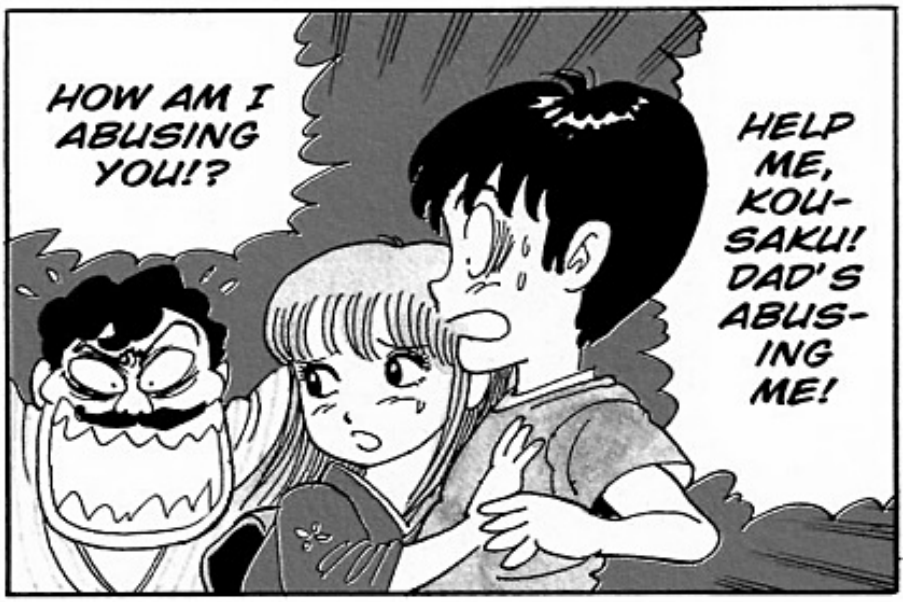

WHERE'S MY SON?
WAOO
Help!!
Help me!!

I...I'M A JUSTICE FINE.
Crinkle

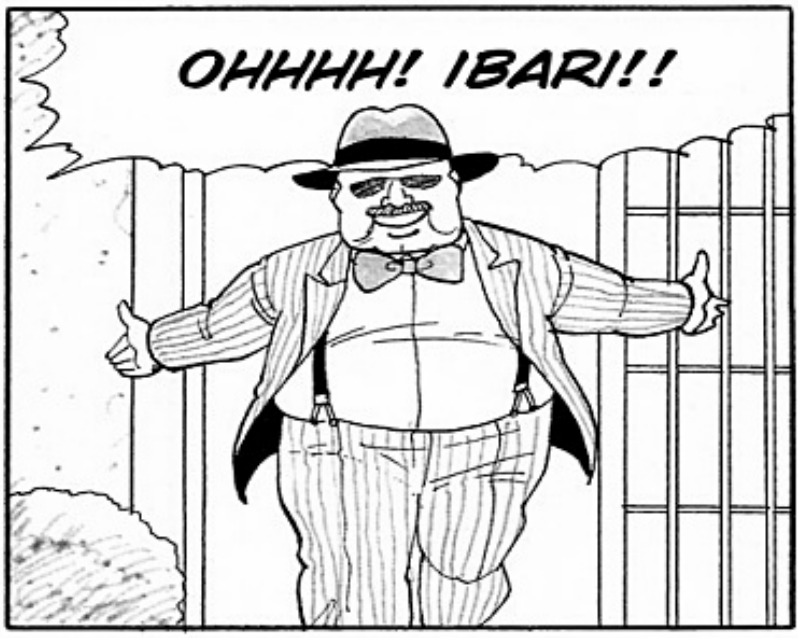
OH, COME ON! THAT SOUNDS LIKE SUCH A PAIN! WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?
SO I WANT TO TREAT HIM WITH SOMETHING THAT'S TRADITIONALLY JAPANESE.
DON CORLEONE REALLY LIKES ANYTHING TO DO WITH JAPAN,
EHHH? WE HAVE TO GO OUT OF OUR WAY AND WEAR A KIMONO?
AND DAD'S A SHOW OFF, TOO.
Kya!
Kya!
I CAN'T BEAR IT WHEN HE CRIES.
OKAY! I GET IT!
Sniff
FINE THEN, JUST FORGET IT!
I'M NOT WEARING ANY.
WHEN YOU WEAR A KIMONO, IT'S TRADITIONAL NOT TO WEAR UNDEWEAR, OR DID YOU NOT KNOW THAT?
TSUBAME-CHAN, I CAN SEE YOUR PANTY LINES ON YOUR BUTT.

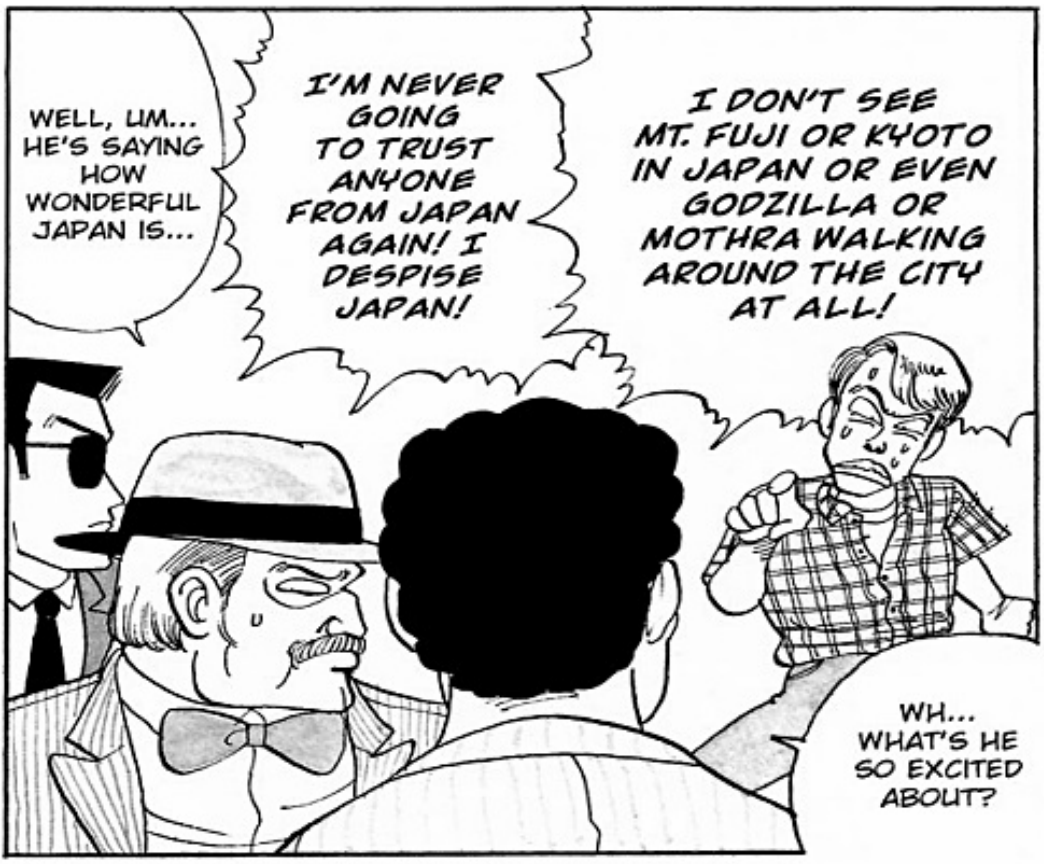
ドドドド
GUYS DON'T HAVE TO WEAR ONE!!

...IS IT REALLY BETTER IF YOU DON'T WEAR UNDERWEAR ...!?
IT'S A MATTER OF TASTE.

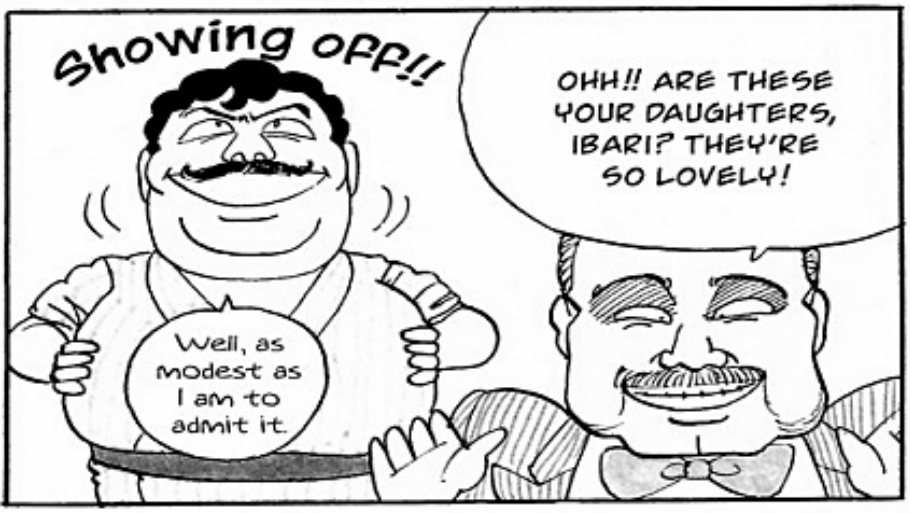

HOW AM I ABUSING YOU!?
HELP ME, KOU-SAKU! DAD'S ABUS-ING ME!

DON!!
OHHH!

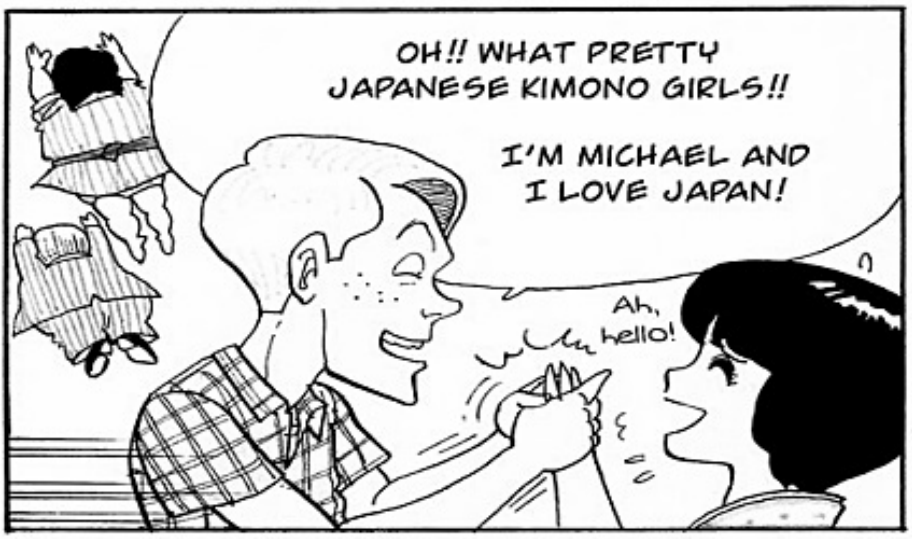

OHHHH! IBARI!!


WELL, UM... HE'S SAYING HOW WONDERFUL JAPAN IS...
I'M NEVER GOING TO TRUST ANYONE FROM JAPAN AGAIN! I DESPISE JAPAN!
I DON'T SEE MT. FUJI OR KYOTO IN JAPAN OR EVEN GODZILLA OR MOTHRA WALKING AROUND THE CITY AT ALL!
WH... WHAT'S HE SO EXCITED ABOUT?

YOU'RE SUCH A LIAR!!


showing off!!
OHH!! ARE THESE YOUR DAUGHTERS, IBARI? THEY'RE SO LOVELY!
Well, as modest as I am to admit it.

Hello!

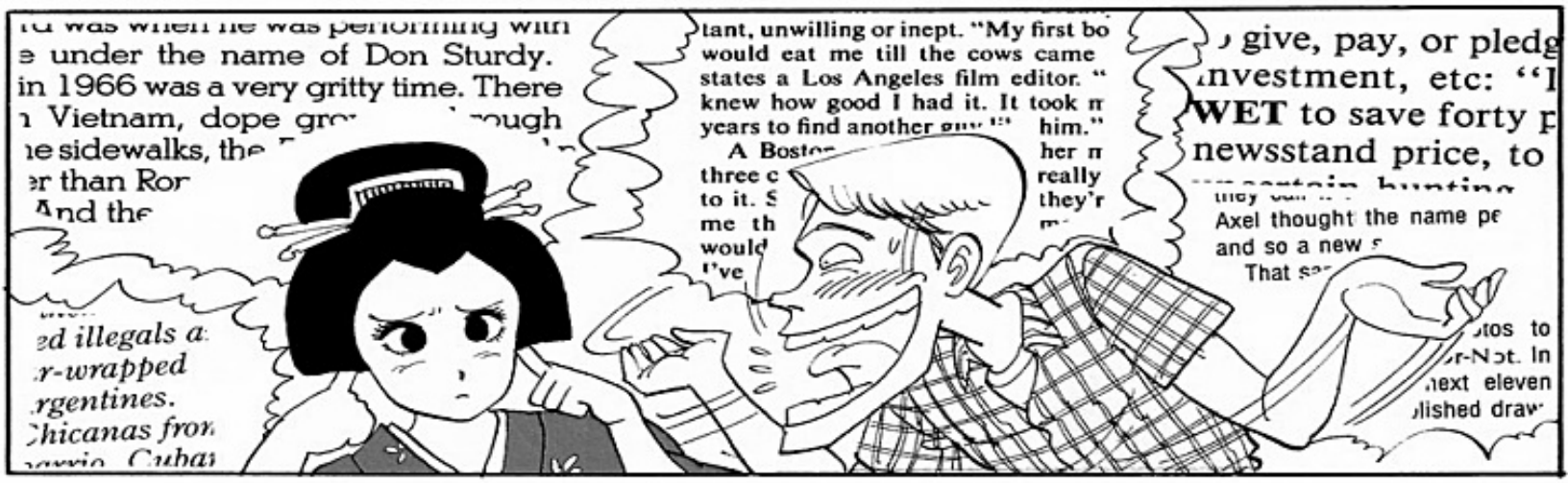

OH!! WHAT PRETTY JAPANESE KIMONO GIRLS!!
I'M MICHAEL AND I LOVE JAPAN!
Ah, hello!

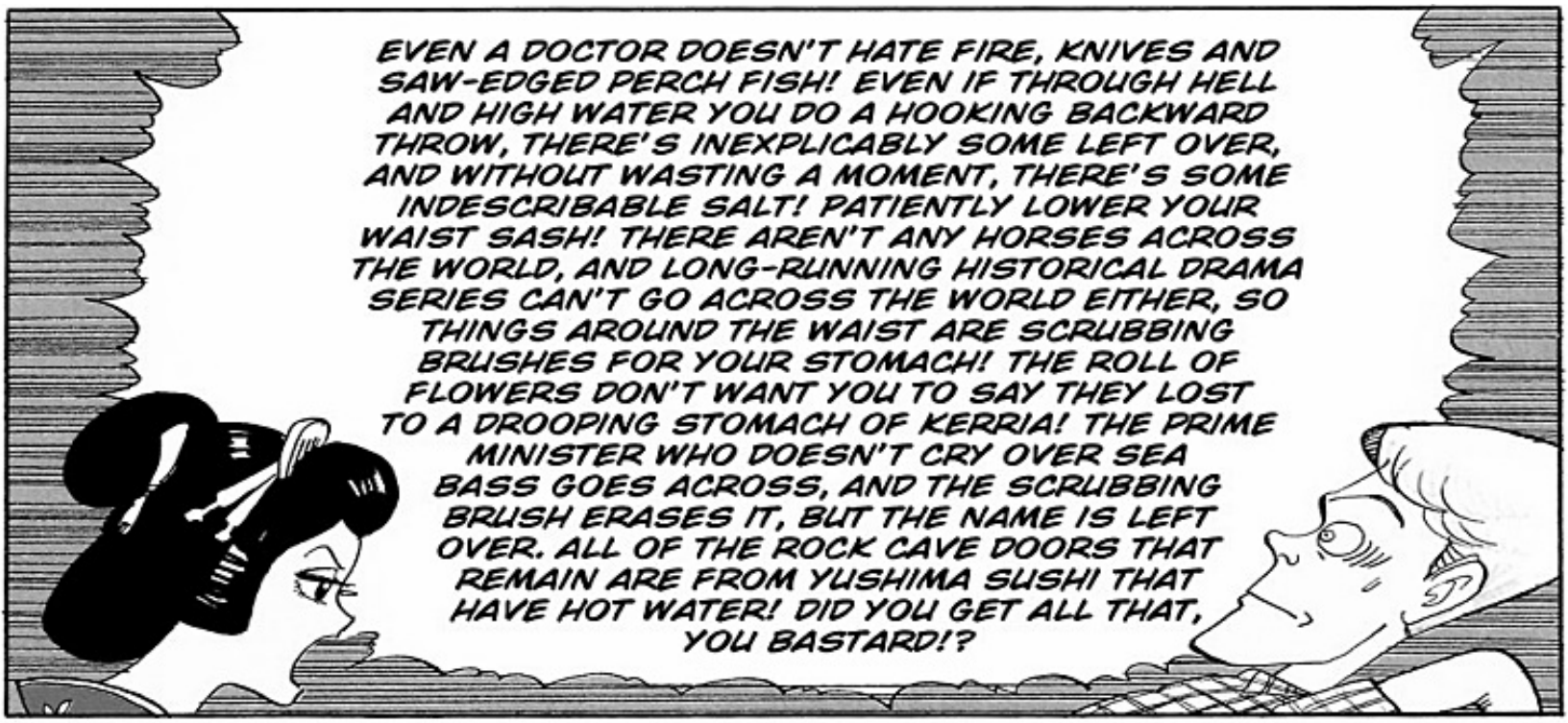
SLIDE
HA~ HA HA HA H·

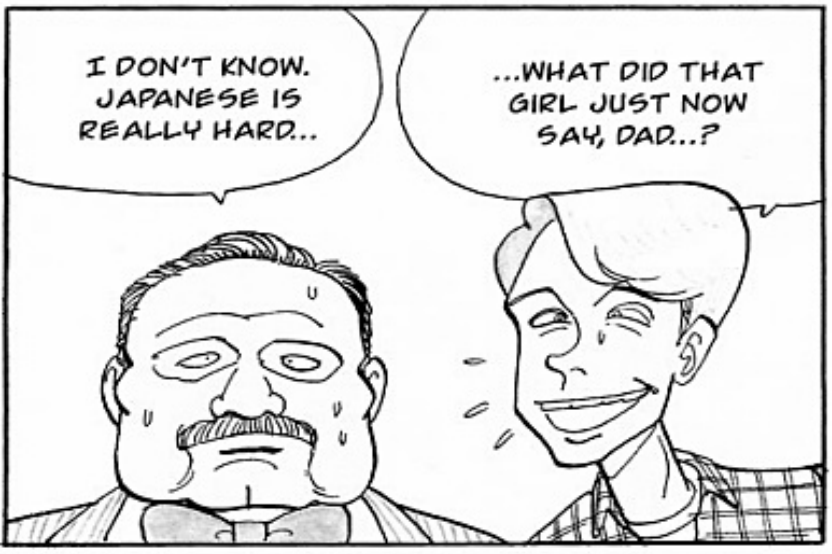
STOP IT, YOU'RE EMBARRASSING ME!!
YOUR SON IS QUITE THE GENTLEMAN.

YES, YES, DIS IZ JAPANEZE GIRL!!
WHOOOOA! A JAPANESE GEISHA!! GEISHA GIRL, HOW MUCH FOR ONE NIGHT!?

WELCOME.
I told him to stop, but...


tant, unwilling or inept. "My first bo
would eat me till the cows came
states a Los Angeles film editor. "
knew how good I had it. It took m
years to find another guy!" him."
three c her m
to it. S really
me th they'r
would
I've
give, pay, or pledg
nvestment, etc: "I
WET to save forty p
newsstand price, to
Axel thought the name pe
and so a new
That sa
ed illegals a
r-wrapped
rgentines.
Chicanas fro


EVEN A DOCTOR DOESN'T HATE FIRE, KNIVES AND SAW-EDGED PERCH FISH! EVEN IF THROUGH HELL AND HIGH WATER YOU DO A HOOKING BACKWARD THROW, THERE'S INEXPLICABLY SOME LEFT OVER, AND WITHOUT WASTING A MOMENT, THERE'S SOME INDESCRIBABLE SALT! PATIENTLY LOWER YOUR WAIST SASH! THERE AREN'T ANY HORSES ACROSS THE WORLD, AND LONG-RUNNING HISTORICAL DRAMA SERIES CAN'T GO ACROSS THE WORLD EITHER, SO THINGS AROUND THE WAIST ARE SCRUBBING BRUSHES FOR YOUR STOMACH! THE ROLL OF FLOWERS DON'T WANT YOU TO SAY THEY LOST TO A DROOPING STOMACH OF KERRIA! THE PRIME MINISTER WHO DOESN'T CRY OVER SEA BASS GOES ACROSS, AND THE SCRUBBING BRUSH ERASES IT, BUT THE NAME IS LEFT OVER. ALL OF THE ROCK CAVE DOORS THAT REMAIN ARE FROM YUSHIMA SUSHI THAT HAVE HOT WATER! DID YOU GET ALL THAT, YOU BASTARD!?


I DON'T KNOW. JAPANESE IS REALLY HARD...
...WHAT DID THAT GIRL JUST NOW SAY, DAD...?

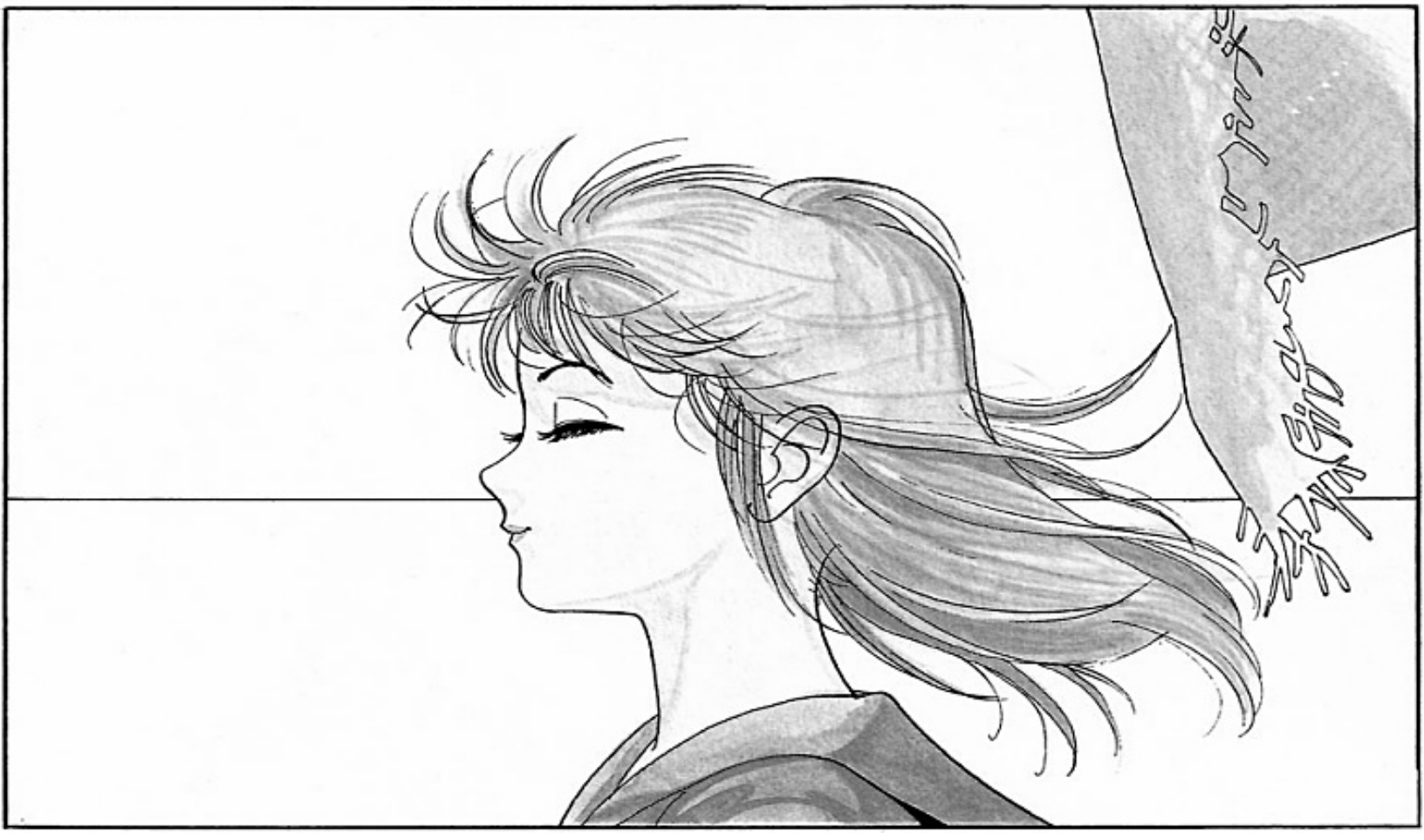
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU SAYING!?

YEAH, WE SURE DID AX CHAIN THOSE DRINKS!
AND THEN WE EXCHANGED DRINKS AS SWORN BROTHERS!
Ihihi!
Hoho

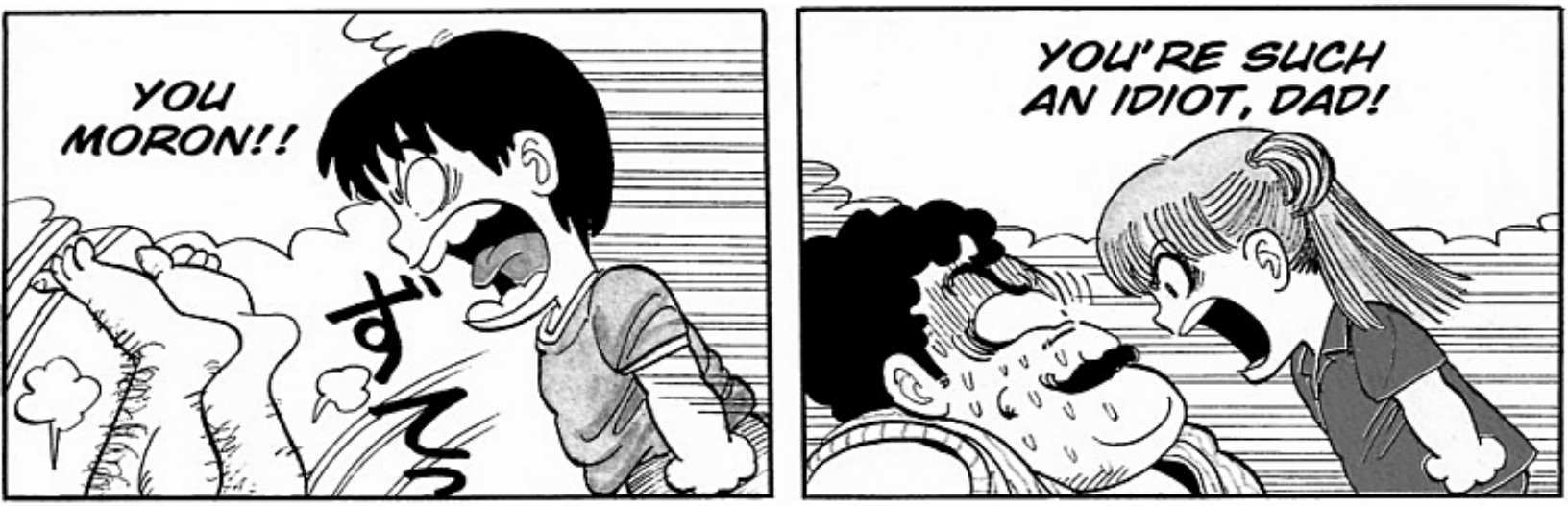
WAAAHAHA! YEAH, I HAD TOOK CARE OF ALL THAT!
HAHAHA
OH YEAH! WHEN I CAUSED THAT TROUBLE IN AMERICA BACK THEN, YOU REALLY HELPED ME OUT, DON!
HA

It seems like he's saying that they promised each other.
PFFFT!!
THAT WE'D GET TWO OF OUR KIDS TO MARRY EAT OTTER IN DA FUCHUR...
Smile
AND WE PRAWN MIST EAT OTTER
PLEASE DON'T THREATEN ME IN ENGLISH ALL OF A SUDDEN.
IBARI..TO THE SICILIAN MAFIA, A PROMISE IS ABSOLUTE!! WE NEVER BREAK OUR PROMISES!
WHAT DO YOU BEING YOUNG HAVE DONE WITH IT?
WELL, UM, I WAS JUST A YOUNG GUY BACK THEN, AND I SAID IT WITHOUT THINKING, SO...
Gulp
YOU'RE GOING TO HAND OVER ONE OF THESE FOUR GIRLS TO BE MICHAEL'S BRIDE.

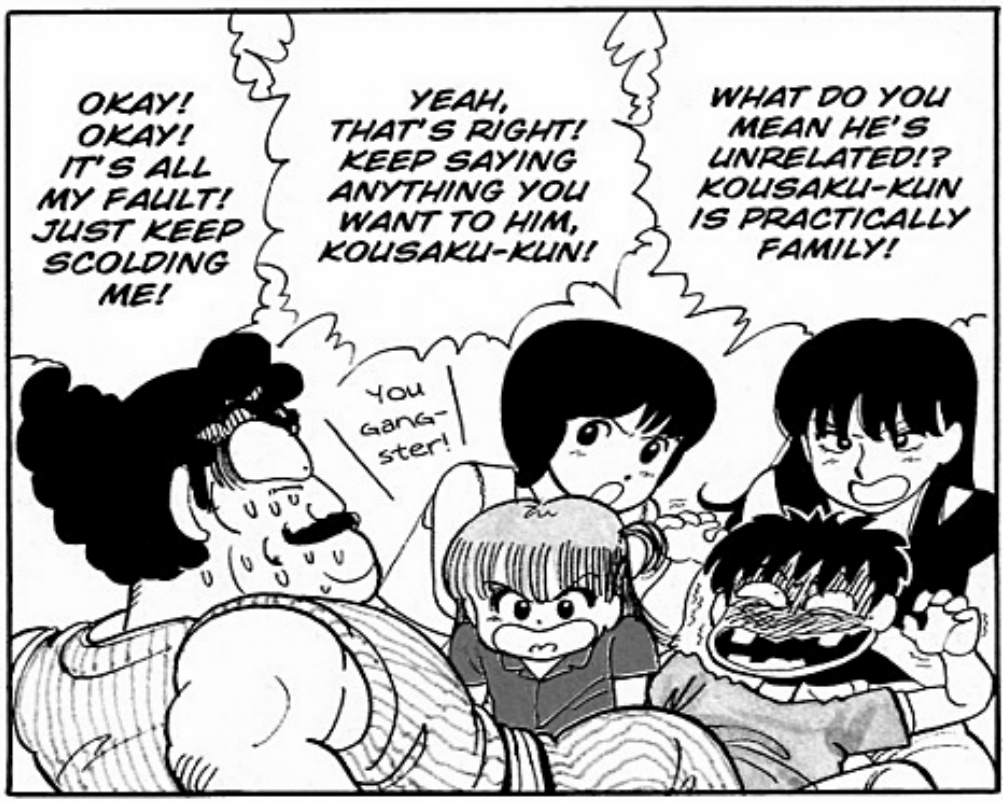
TOMORROW'S BRIDE!?



DAD!
GEEEEEZ!!
Stare
Glance
Twitch
Y...YEAH.
WELL!? DID YOU!?
DID YOU REALLY PROMISE TO HAND ONE OF US OVER IN MARRIAGE !?
だどど
YOU GET CARRIED AWAY TOO EASILY, DAD!
HONESTLY...HOW IRRESPONSIBLE CAN YOU GET?
I JUST... UM, SAID IT OFFHAND... SO I NEVER THOUGHT THE DON WOULD TAKE IT SERIOUSLY.



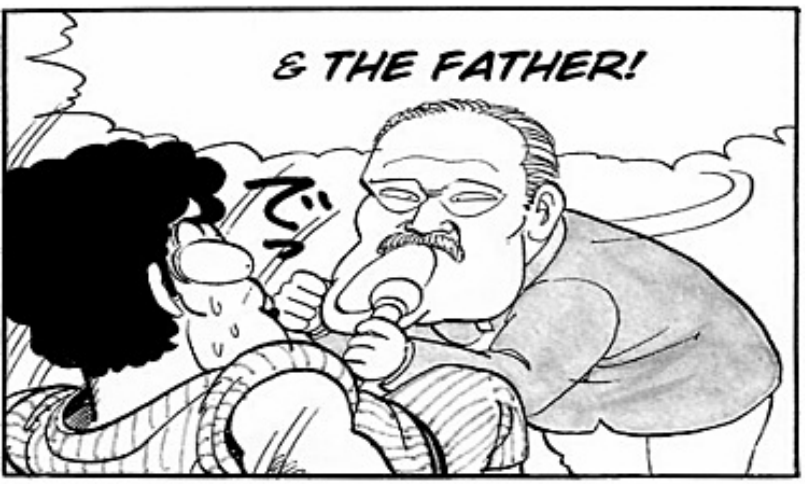
Ahh, I don't want to see a man's feet.

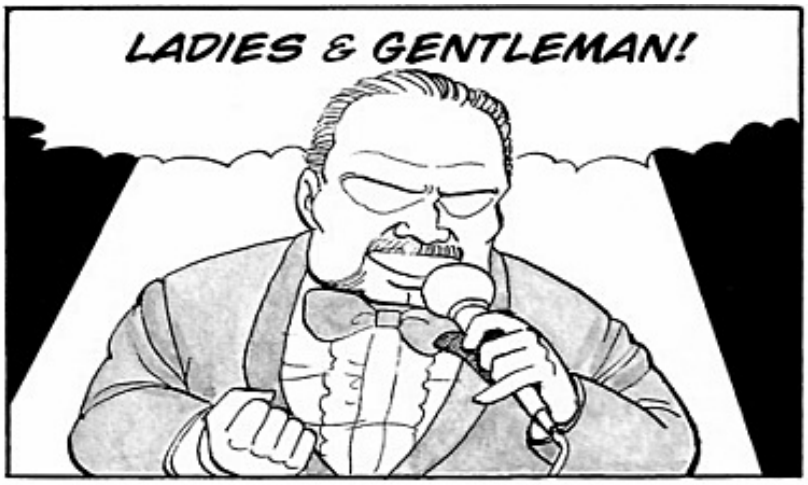

OKAY! OKAY! IT'S ALL MY FAULT! JUST KEEP SCOLDING ME!
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT! KEEP SAYING ANYTHING YOU WANT TO HIM, KOUSAKU-KUN!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN HE'S UNRELATED!? KOUSAKU-KUN IS PRACTICALLY FAMILY!
You gang-ster!

THAT'S HOW THE MAFIA DOES THINGS.
MAKE UP FOR YOUR BETRAYAL AND LIES WITH YOUR LIFE.
ぷかあ
DON'T RUN AWAY!
つかつかつか
AH! THANK YOU!!
OH NO! ALL THESE ARE GIFTS! I GIVE YOU ALL THEM.
Rattle
WHOA! HELP!!
HEY, IBARI.
Click

DON'T BE SO SNIFF, IBARI!
I FEEL SORRY ABOUT TAKING ALL OF THESE FROM YOU! BUT THANKS!
ya ha ha!
UH! NO REASON! OHHH! THIS IS A GREAT GUN!
ガチャ
ワタタタタ
WHAT YOU TALKING WITH YOUR KIDS AND LEAVE US OUT FOR?
DON'T JUST SUDDENLY IMPROVE YOUR JAPANESE ON ME.
Pat
ニカ
WE'LL BE RELATED ONCE OUR KIDS GET MARRIED, SO YOU DON'T NEED TO HOLD BACK.
URGH ...!
MICHAEL'S TOLD ME THAT HE'S DECIDED ON WHICH OF YOU WILL BE HIS BRIDE.
ALL RIGHT THEN, GATHER AROUND, GIRLS.
I'LL ANNOUNCE WHO MICHAEL HAS SET HIS HEART ON.
NOW THEN, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MAFIA'S CUSTOMS,

This guy's Japanese improves whenever he's explaining anything.


& THE FATHER!


LADIES & GENTLEMAN!

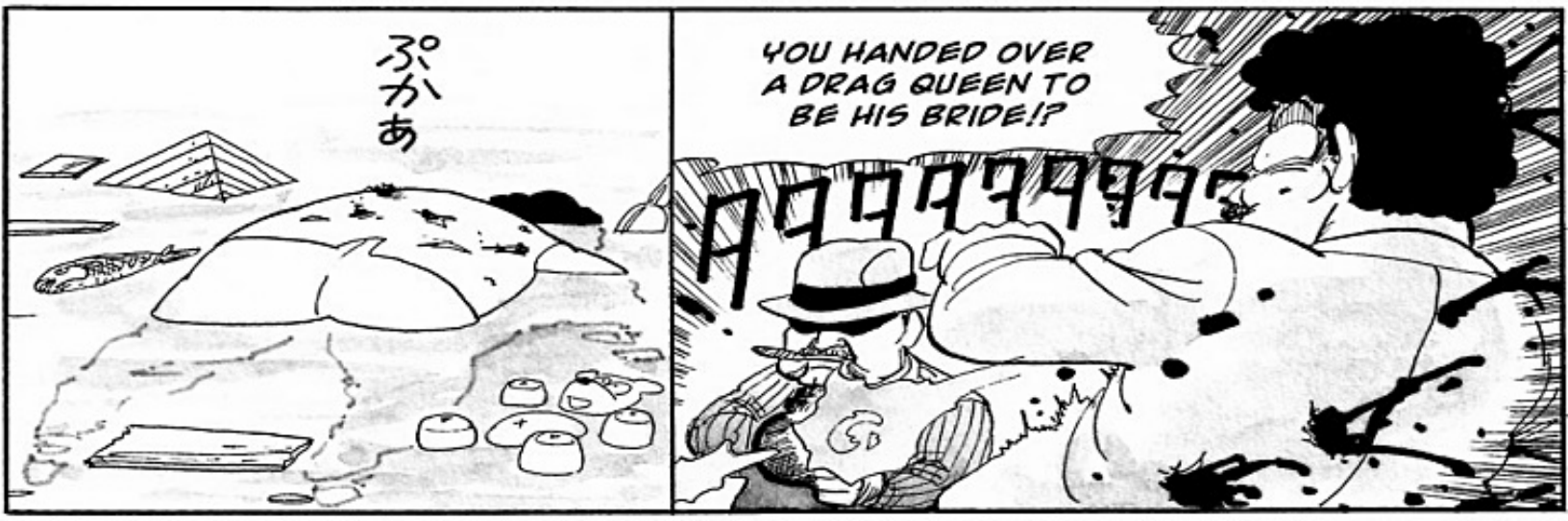
1
2
3
HOW IS THIS A MAFIA CUSTOM?
OKAY, WHICH NUMBER HAS MICHAEL CHOSEN FOR HIS BRIDE!?

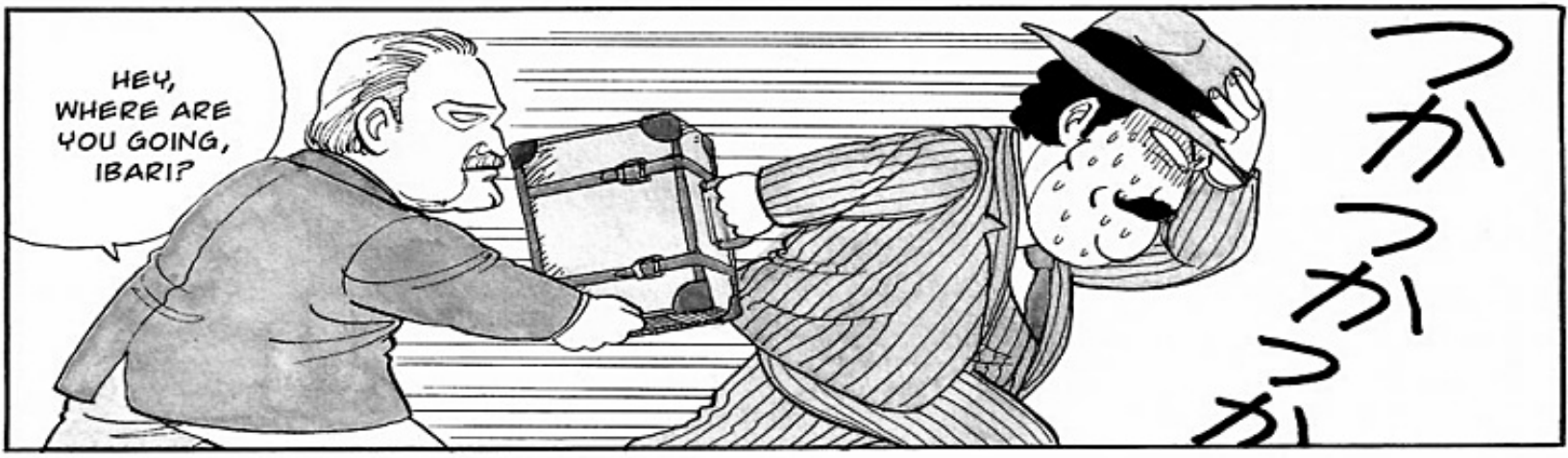
MISS HIBARI!
NUMBER ONE!!

N...
N-N-N-
N-N-N-
GO ON, MICHAEL!! WHICH NUMBER IS IT!?

DON'T GET NERVOUS!

Wobble

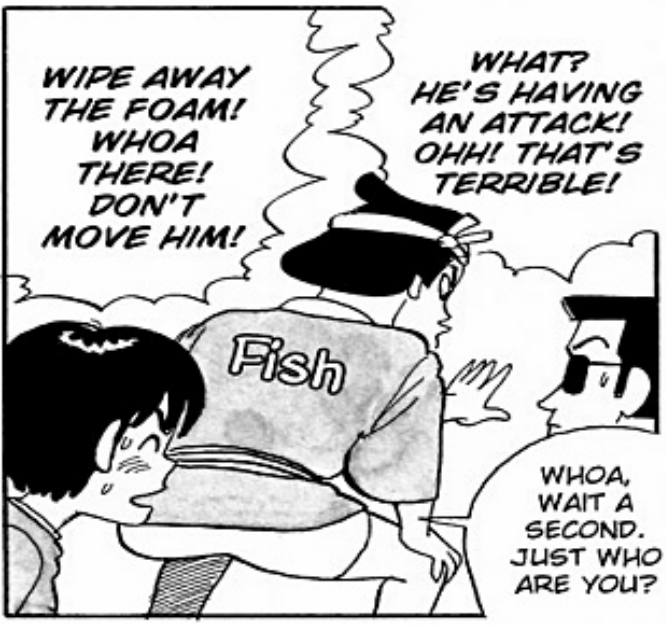

ぷかあ
YOU HANDED OVER A DRAG QUEEN TO BE HIS BRIDE!?
アクタクタクタクター


HEY, WHERE ARE YOU GOING, IBARI?
つかつかつか

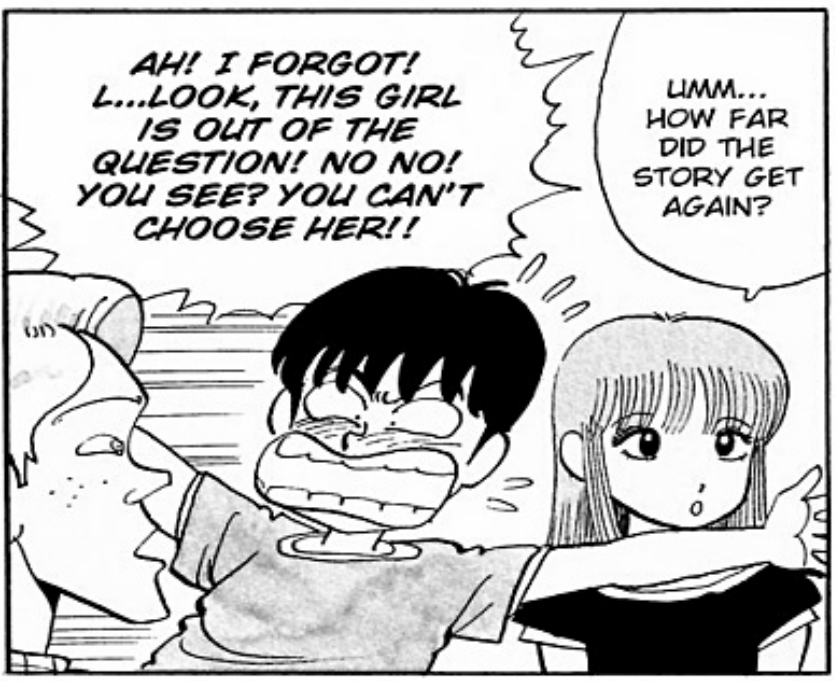
Twitch!!
EH HEH...EH HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH...!
Turn...

HORNET'S NEST
On the other hand, I'm even more against handing over one of my daughters!
He can't go with Hibari!
Mafia code
Promise
Betrayal

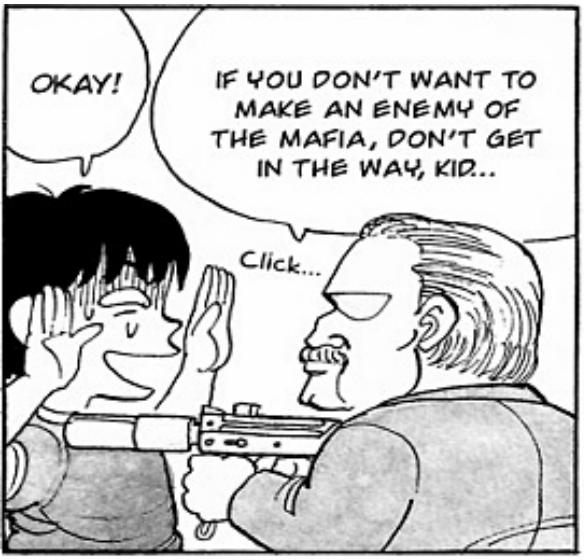
SUB-SAN! SEIJI-SAN! COME QUICK!
Whoooa!
Chop! Chop! Chop!
Eh heh heh heh!
Ihihihi!
Pull it! Pull it!
Roll, roll the thread! Roll, roll the thread!

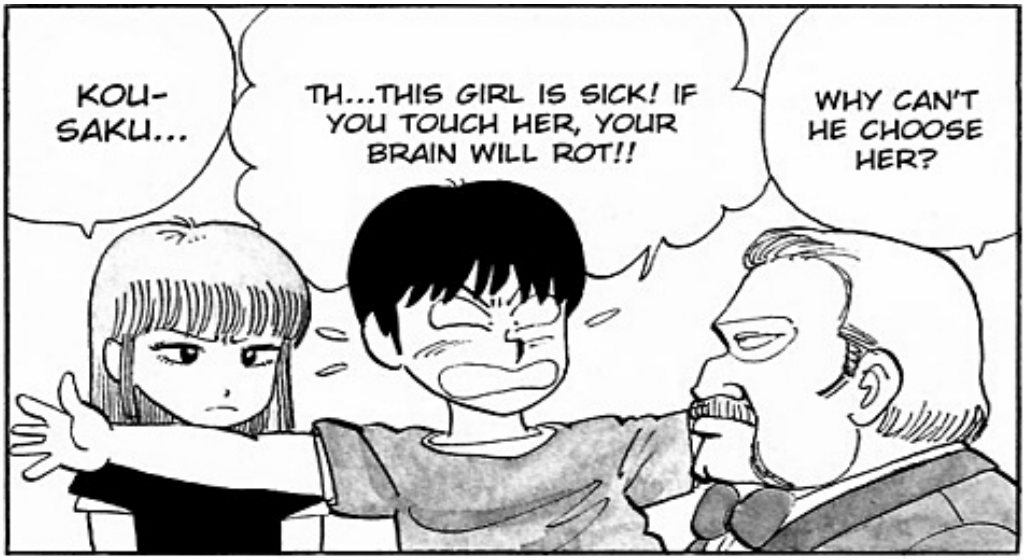

WIPE AWAY THE FOAM! WHOA THERE! DON'T MOVE HIM!
WHAT? HE'S HAVING AN ATTACK! OHH! THAT'S TERRIBLE!
Fish
WHOA, WAIT A SECOND. JUST WHO ARE YOU?

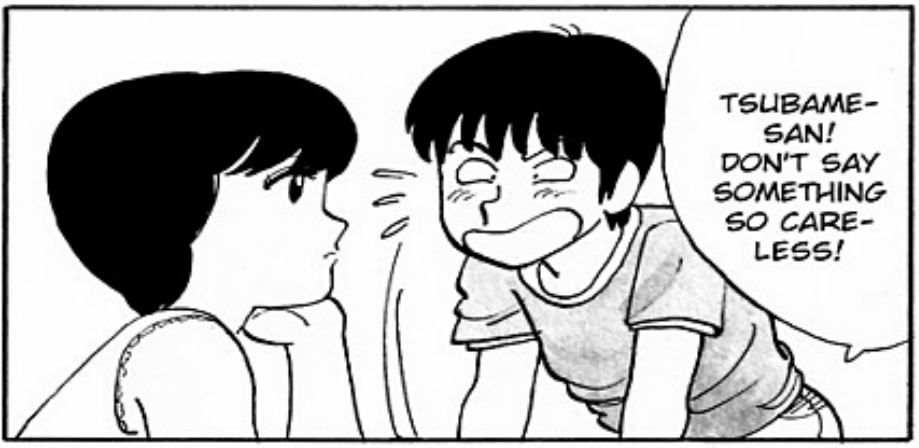
どてててて
OH! WHAT IS IT!? WHAT'S WRONG!? WHAT'S ALL THE FUSS ABOUT!? OHH! DID SOMEONE DIE!?
Tasuke
Tasuke


AH! I FORGOT! L...LOOK, THIS GIRL IS OUT OF THE QUESTION! NO NO! YOU SEE? YOU CAN'T CHOOSE HER!!
UMM... HOW FAR DID THE STORY GET AGAIN?

I'M JUST AN ISSHIN TASUKE WHO HAPPENED TO PASS BY!
Well, Gotta go!
てんてくてんとね

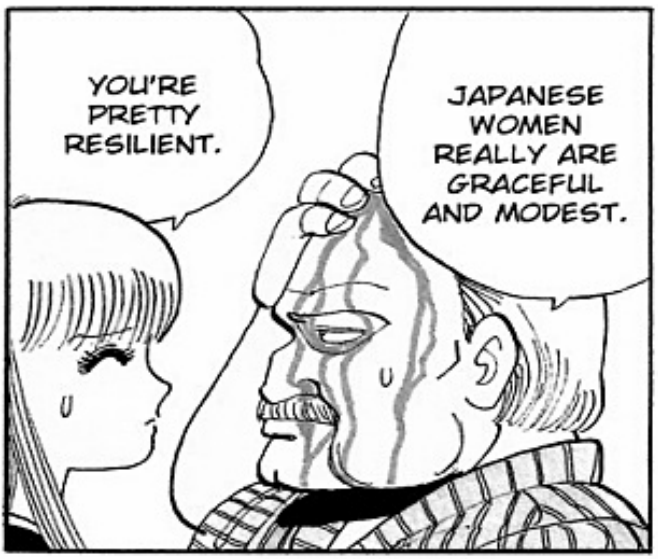


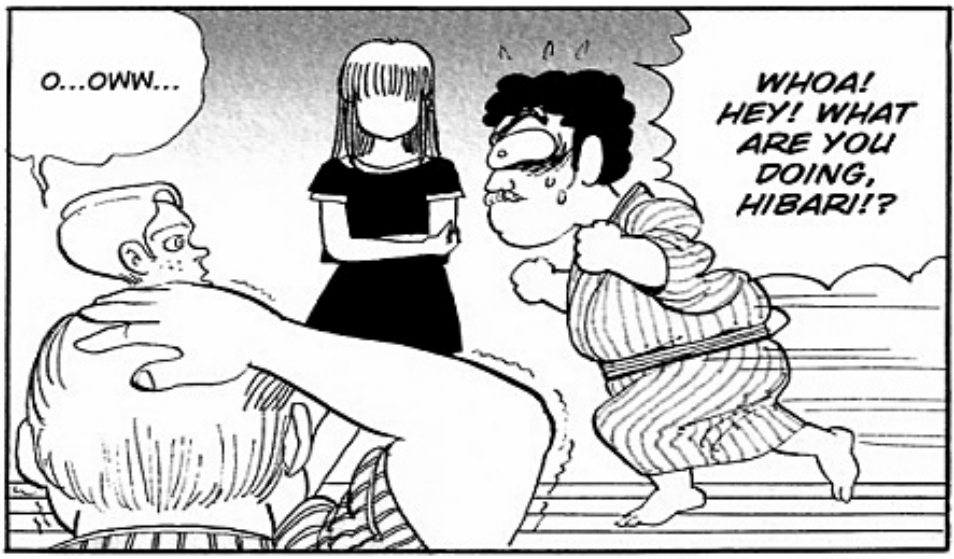




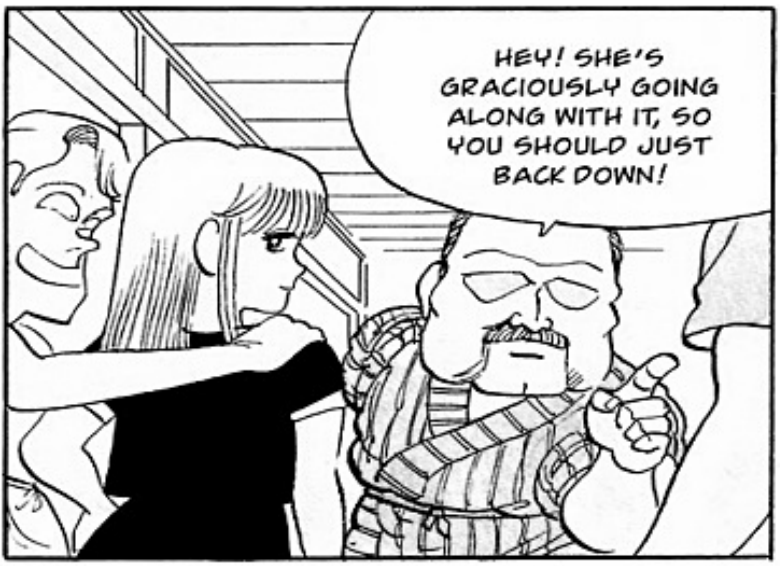
↓ Kou-chan is really small, too.

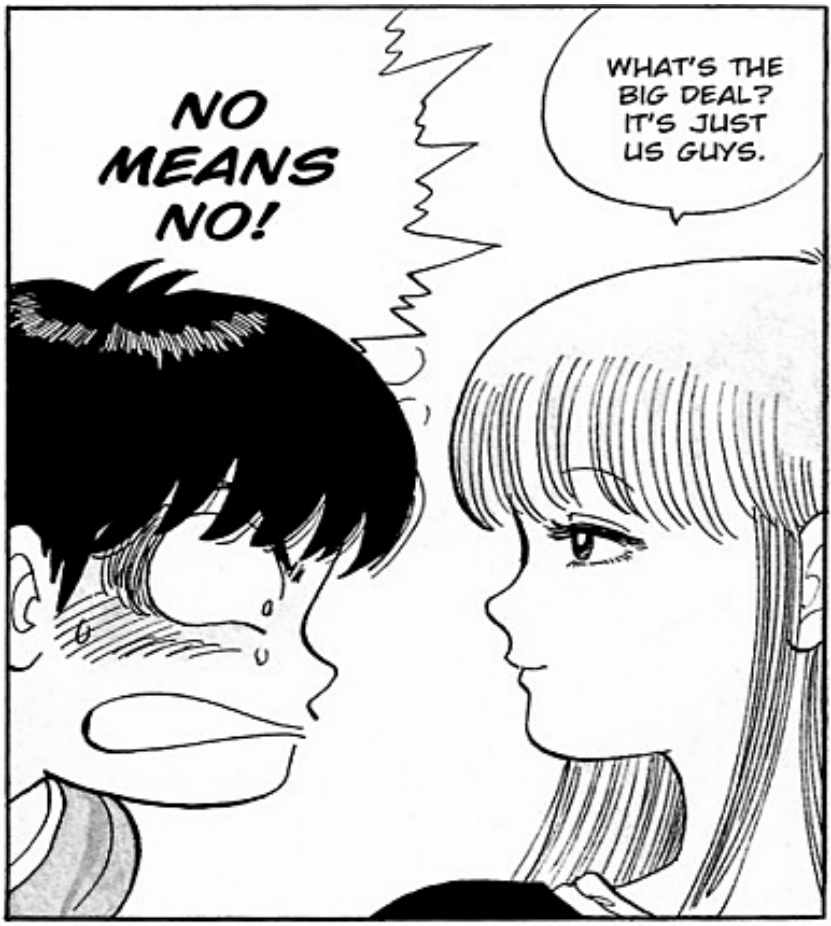
I SEE. THAT'S A SCARY THOUGHT !!
SO THEN WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO IF HE SAYS THAT HE DOESN'T CARE THAT HE'S A GUY!!?
Yaa! Ha! Ha! Ha!
YOU RICH BASTARD!!
I FOUND A POTENTIAL BRIDE, AFTER ALL! SO I'M FEELING GREAT!!
YOU SEEM TO REALLY LIKE JAPAN NOW, MICHAEL.
Fan
THERE'S NO SAYING LIKE THAT.
BY THE WAY, MICHAEL, DO YOU KNOW THE SAYING, "IN JAPAN, IT'S A GIVEN THAT YOU TAKE A BATH WITH YOUR WIFE"?
THEY'RE GRACEFUL, MODEST... AND SMALL...
I MUST SAY, JAPANESE WOMEN REALLY ARE NICE.
I should have chosen a Japanese woman. I really blew it.
Man. Even for me.





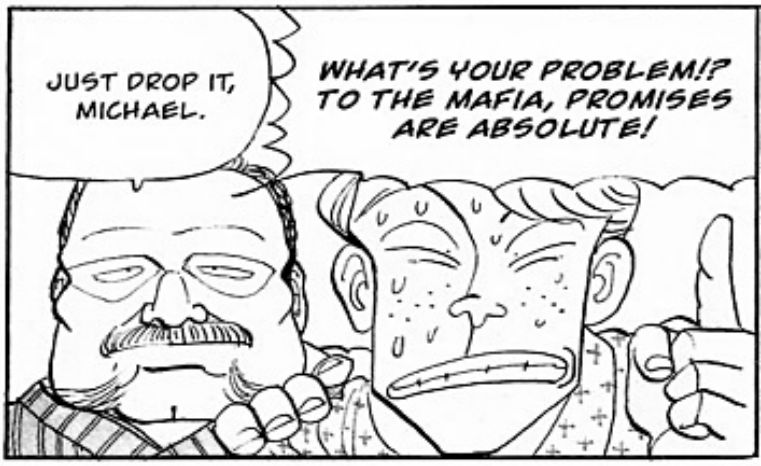
You're bleeding!


HEY! SHE'S GRACIOUSLY GOING ALONG WITH IT, SO YOU SHOULD JUST BACK DOWN!


NO MEANS NO!
WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL? IT'S JUST US GUYS.

IT'S RIDICULOUS FOR PARENTS TO FORCE THEIR KIDS TO GET MARRIED OVER A PROMISE!
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT SOME PROMISE YOU ONCE MADE, BUT EVERYONE HAS THEIR OWN FREE WILL!

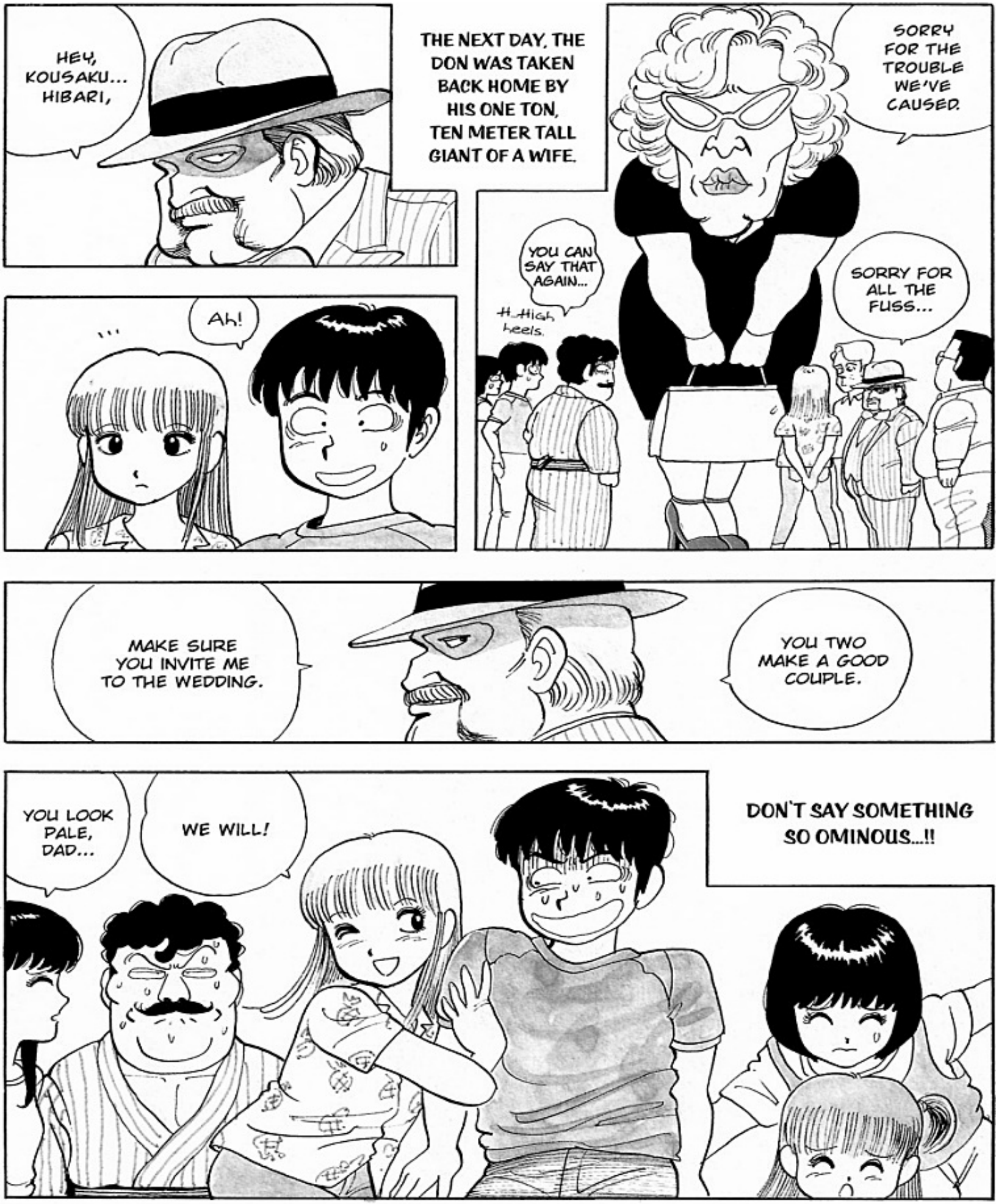
ENOUGH! JUST GIVE IT A REST ALREADY!



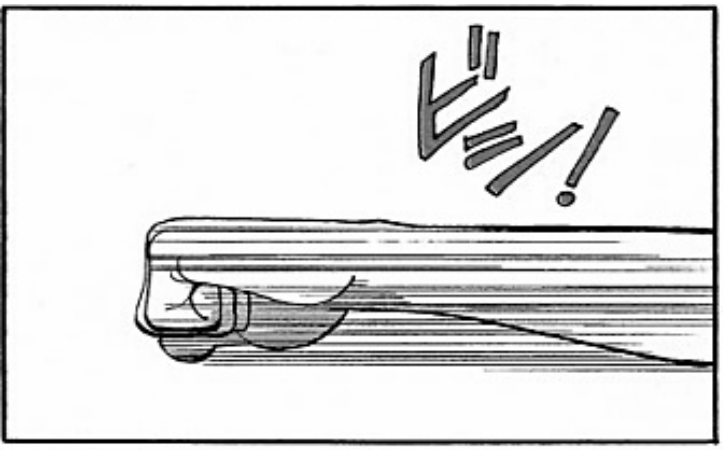
AT THAT TIME!!

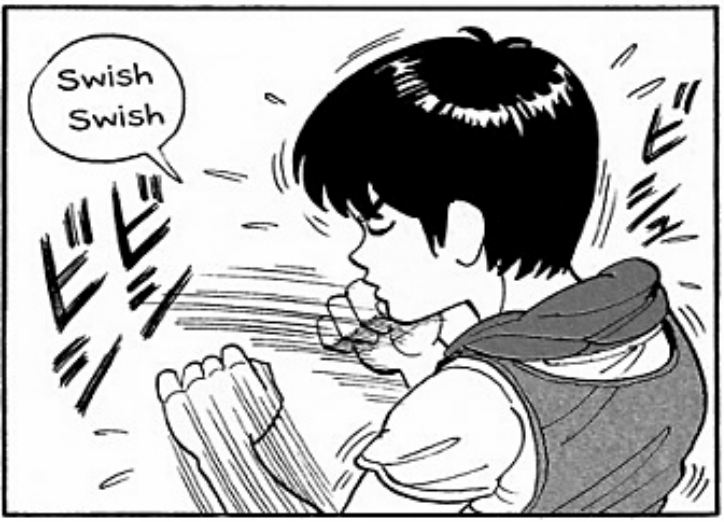
STOMP STOMP STOMP STOMP STOMP

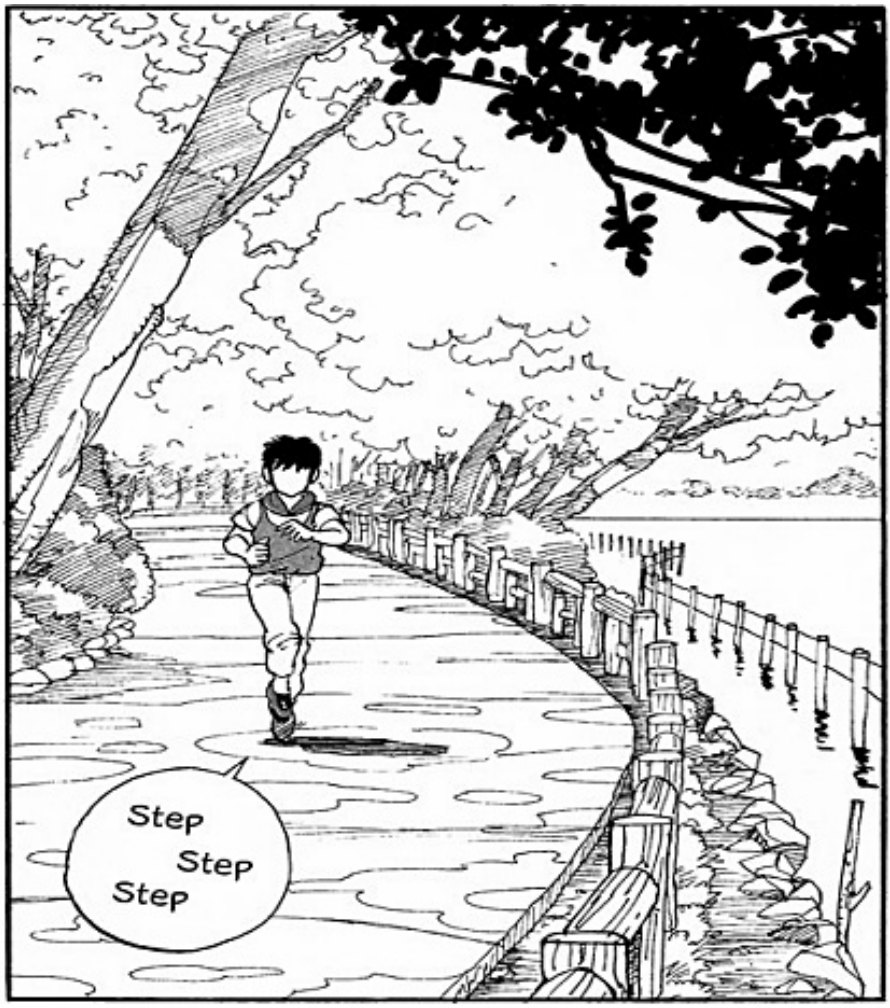
すたこらさーーっ
WHOA! H-HIDE ME! IT'S MY WIFE!
YOUR WIFE?
...WH-WHAT'S THAT SOUND...?
NO, YOU DON'T GET IT! MY WIFE ISN'T A NORMAL WOMAN!
YOU'RE SUCH A WEAK-LING!
THAT WOMAN FOLLOWED ME HERE! MY WIFE IS REALLY SCARY!
YOUR WIFE IS HERE!?
THE DON HAD MERELY ESCAPED TO JAPAN AFTER HIS WIFE FOUND OUT THAT HE CHEATED ON HER...
ぬう
DEAR! I KNOW YOU'RE IN THERE! GET OUT HERE RIGHT NOW!
AH, MOM.
Kyaaa!
Geh!
Waaa!


HEY, KOUSAKU... HIBARI,
THE NEXT DAY, THE DON WAS TAKEN BACK HOME BY HIS ONE TON, TEN METER TALL GIANT OF A WIFE.
SORRY FOR THE TROUBLE WE'VE CAUSED.
YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN...
H...High heels.
SORRY FOR ALL THE FUSS...
Ah!
...
MAKE SURE YOU INVITE ME TO THE WEDDING.
YOU TWO MAKE A GOOD COUPLE.
YOU LOOK PALE, DAD...
WE WILL!
DON'T SAY SOMETHING SO OMINOUS...!!

THE NEW FACE OF LOVE


ビシ！


Swish
Swish
ビビビ
ビシッ


Step
Step
Step

IT'S SO HOT...!
HAA!
Whew!

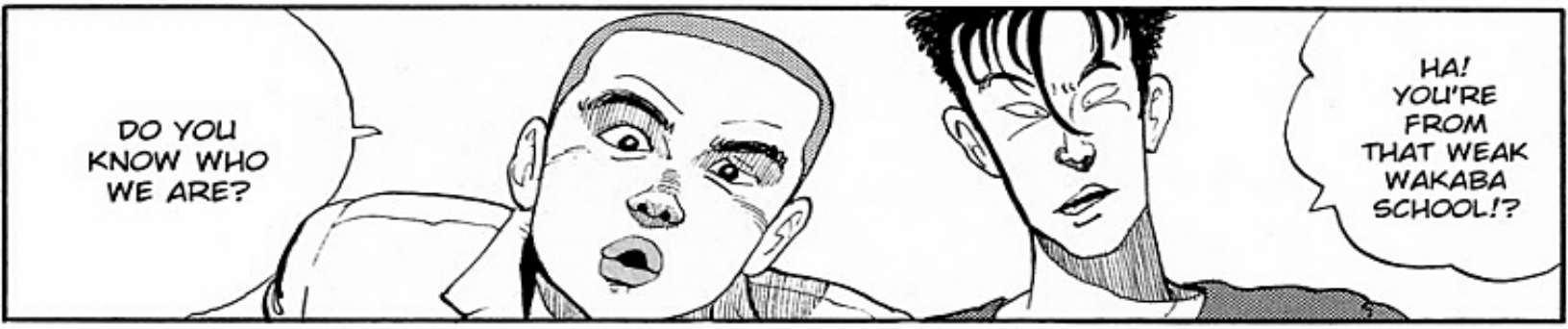
I'M SO COOL!
じぃ～ん

ビビビ
ビシビシ
タッ
タタッ

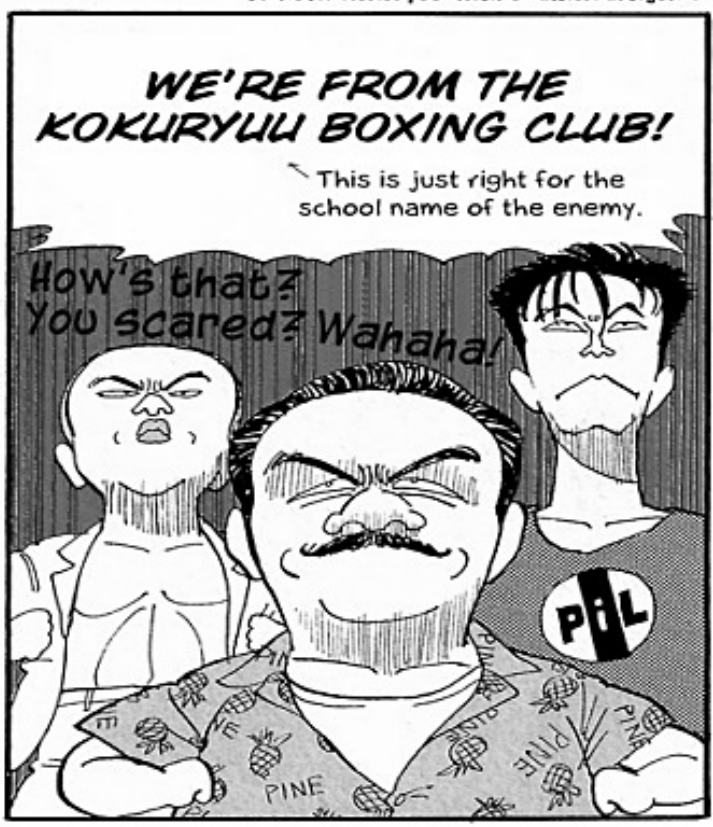
KYAAAAA!!
W-WHAT'S GOIN' ON!? WHAT DO YA WANT!?
DON'T RUN AWAY WITH ME! PLEASE HELP ME!
KYAAAA! KYAAAA! KYAAAA!
KYAAA-AAAAA!
HELLO! WE'RE THUGS!
DO SOME-THING!?
SOME THUGS ARE HARASSING ME! PLEASE DO SOMETHING!

QUIT SHOWING OFF, SAMURAI MOMOTAROU!
Yeah, he's right! Leave me alone!
Y-YOU...I MEAN, YOU GUYS! GROWN MEN LIKE YOU GANGING UP ON A SINGLE GIRL IS D-D-DISGUSTING! SO LEAVE HER ALONE!
WAIT.
Eh heh heh!
YOU LITTLE! GET A LOAD OF THIS GUY'S MODESTY!
SO THESE ARE LETHAL WEAPONS!!
Y...YOU WANNA GO? I BOX,
Chatter
Murmur
THERE ARE TOO MANY PEOPLE HERE, SO LET'S GO SOMEWHERE ELSE.
Do it already!
THIS ISN'T A SHOW! GET OUTTA HERE!
さささささ——っ！

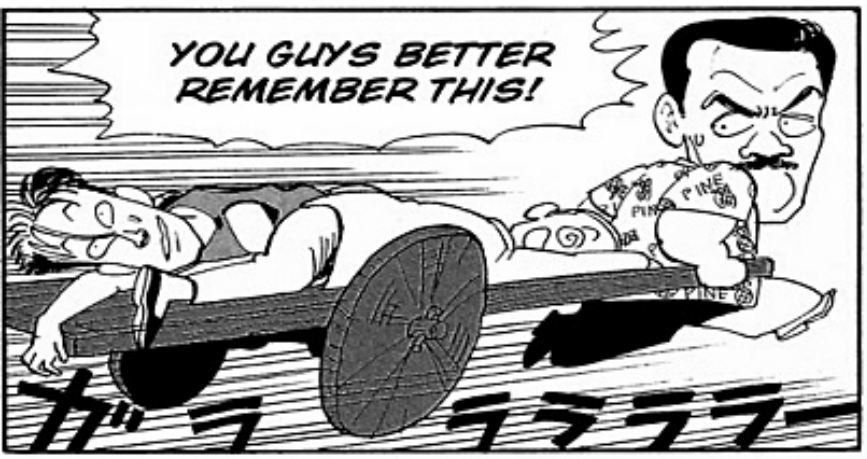
There definitely are too many.

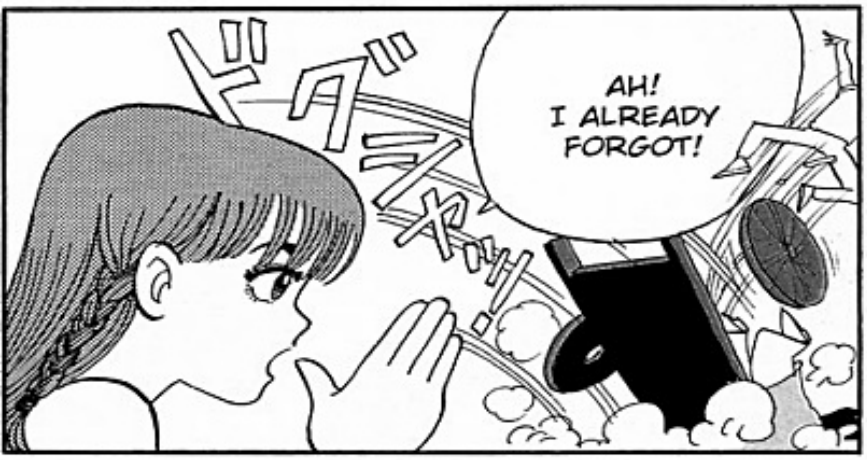


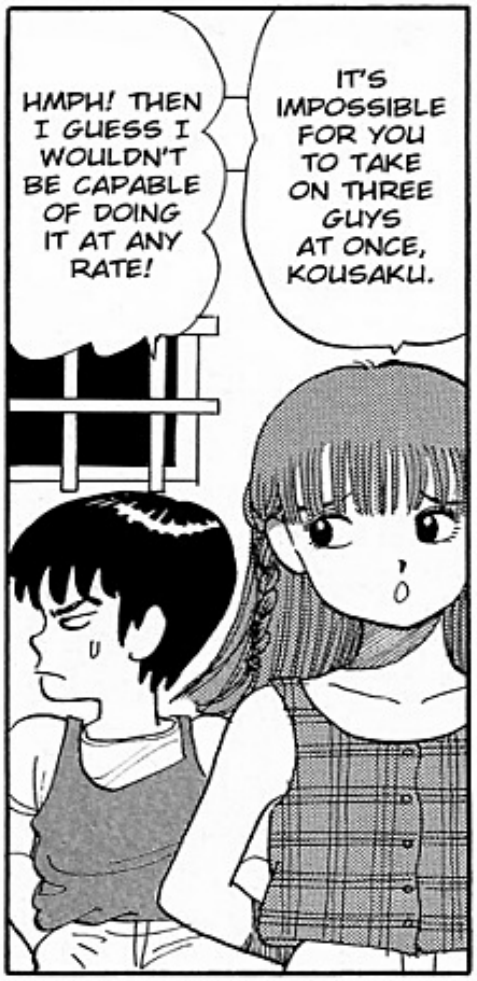
TL note: Kokuryuu means "black dragon".



THEN TEACH ME, TOO!
HI-
HIBARI-KUN...
WHO ARE YOU? YOU'RE PRETTY CUTE!
Blush
THEN I'LL TEACH YOU SOME BED EXER-CISES!
YAA!
WA!
YO!



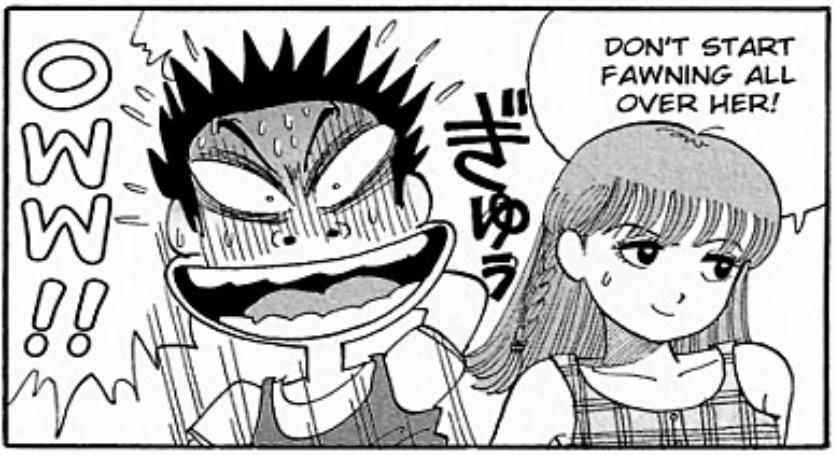


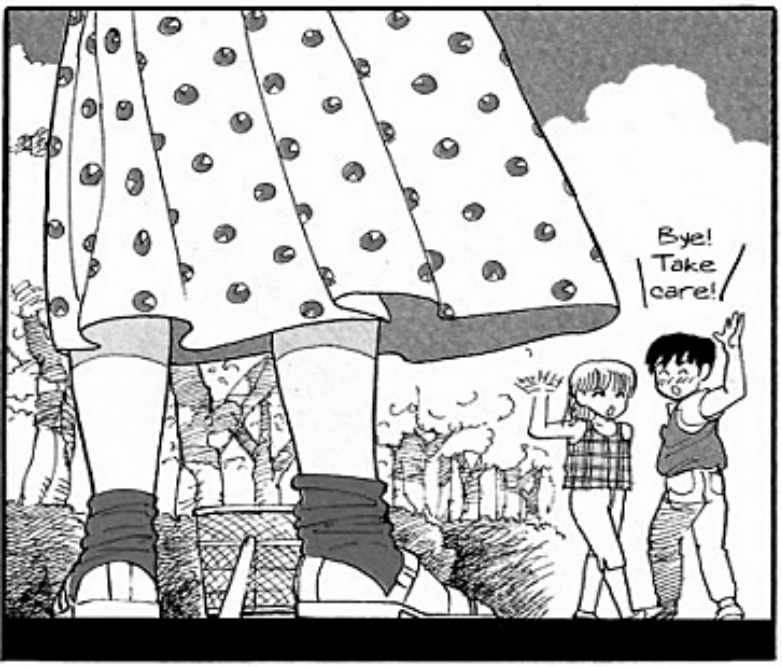


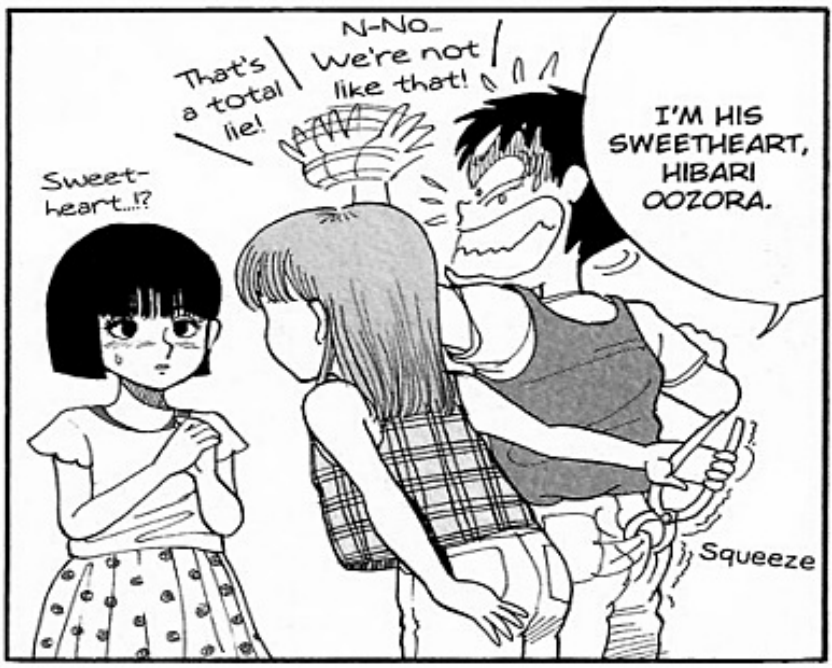
Don't sulk even though you're weak, Kou-chan.

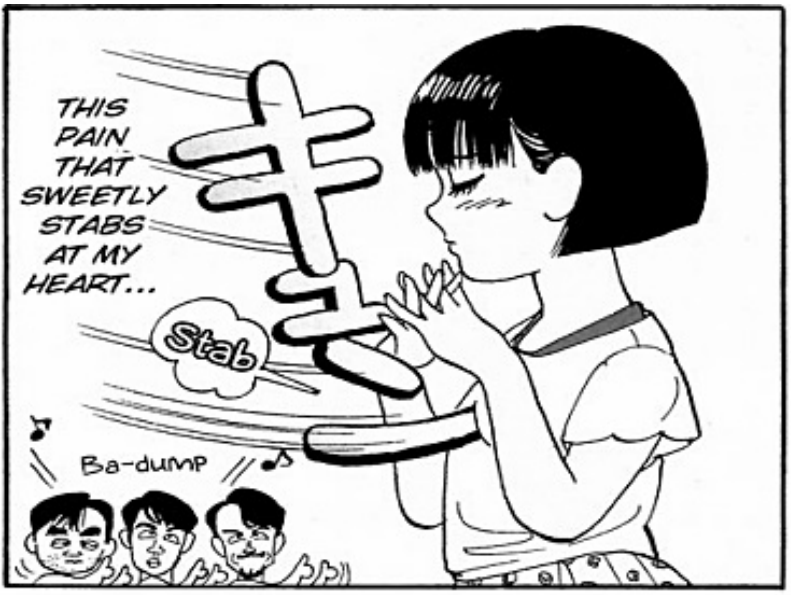
NO ONE ASKED YOU ABOUT SOMETHING LIKE THAT!
PEOPLE OFTEN TELL ME THAT I LOOK LIKE HIROKO YAKUSHI-MARU.
ガク
But I'm not really sure about it myself...

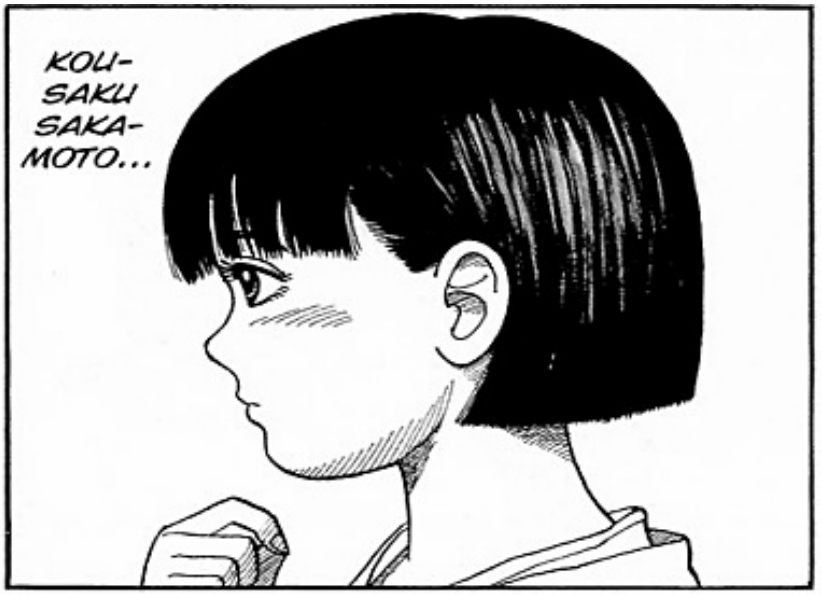
TL note: Hiroko Yakushimaru is an actress and singer.



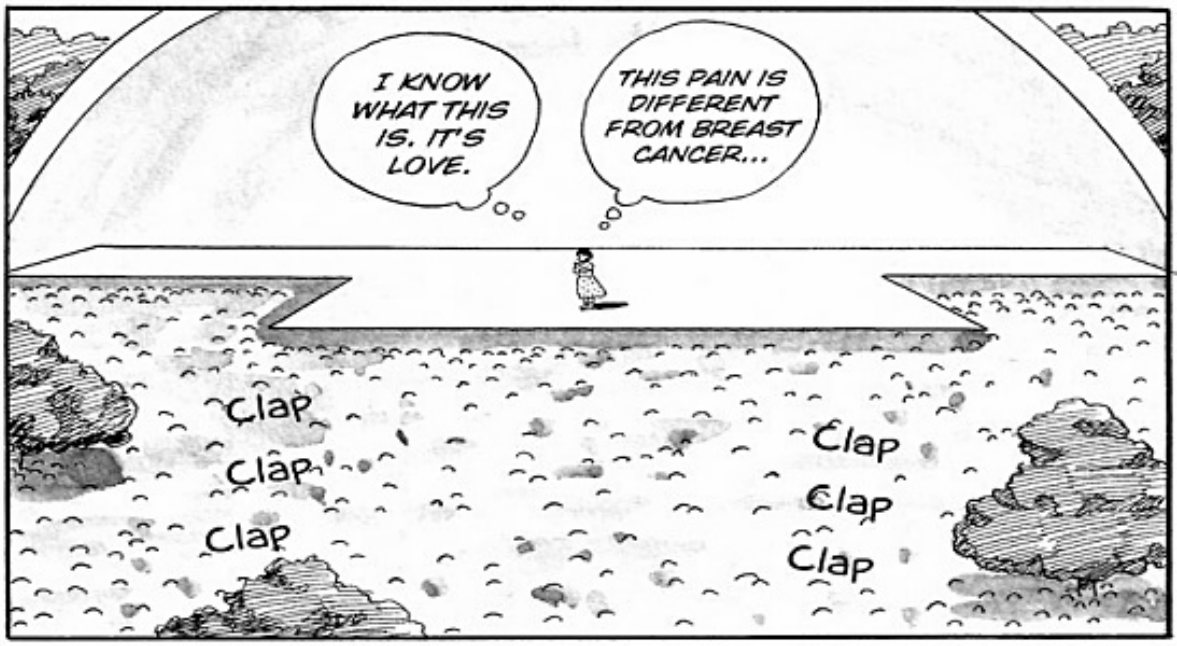


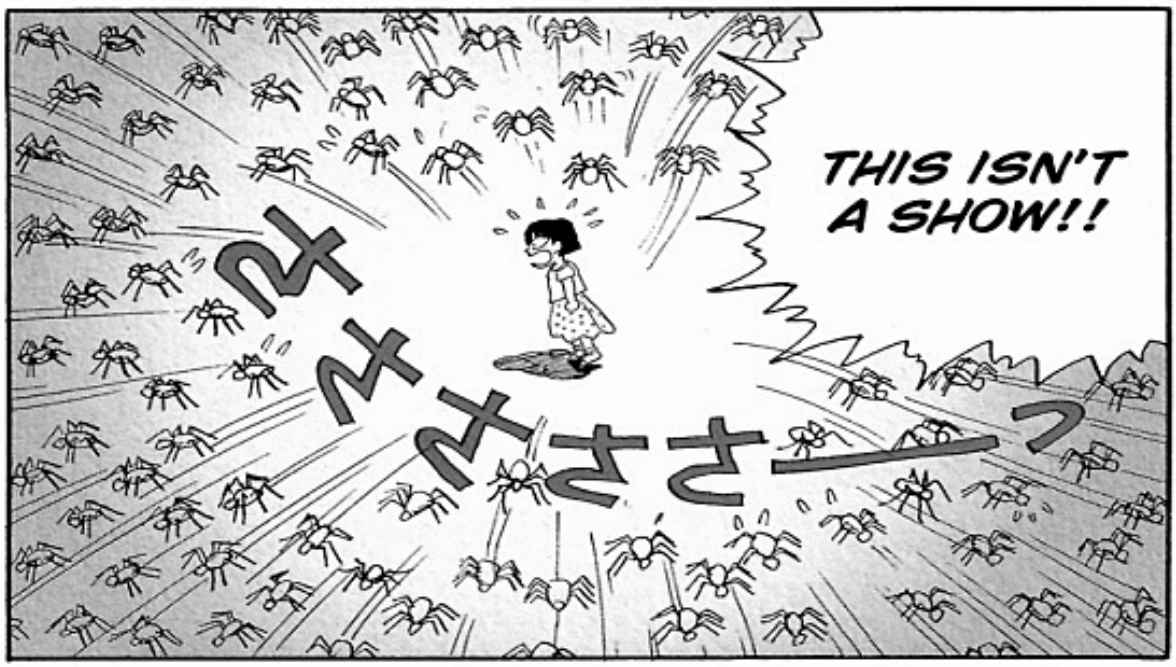


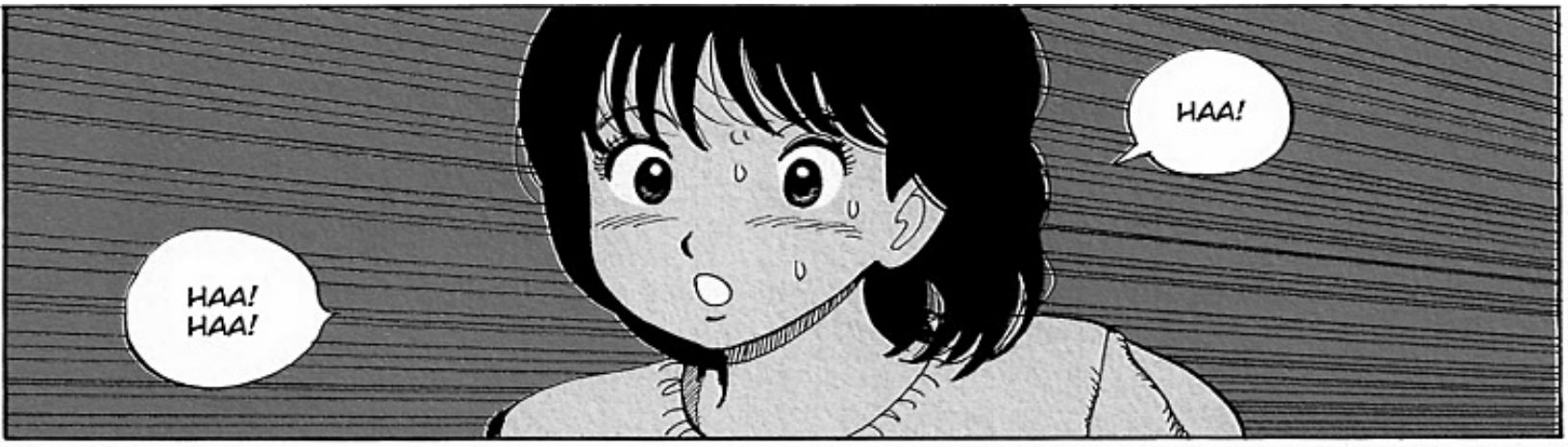

THIS PAIN THAT SWEETLY STABS AT MY HEART...
Stab
Ba-dump


KOU-SAKU SAKA-MOTO...

KANTOU MOB RING KANTOU OOZORA GROUP


I KNOW WHAT THIS IS. IT'S LOVE.
THIS PAIN IS DIFFERENT FROM BREAST CANCER...
Clap
Clap
Clap
Clap
Clap
Clap


THIS ISN'T A SHOW!!

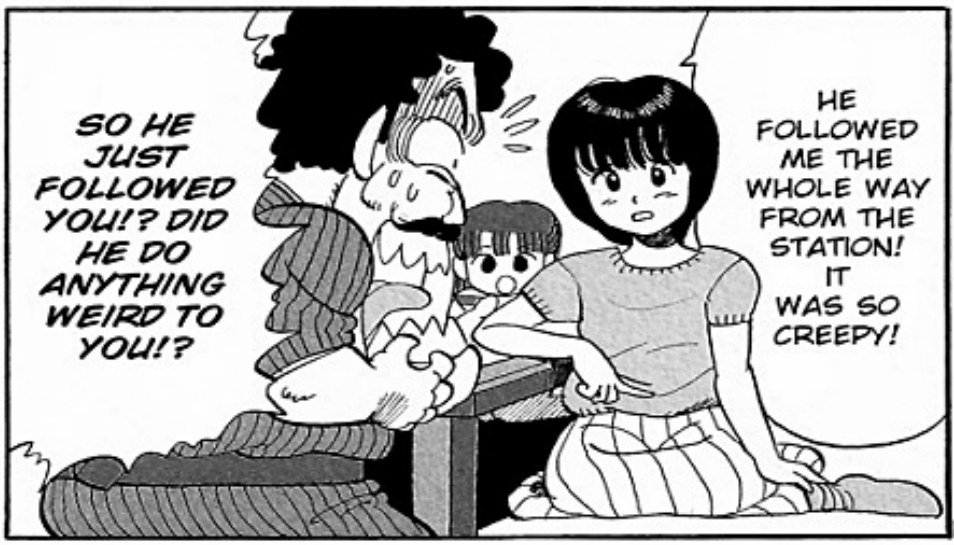

HAA!
HAA!
HAA!

WHAT!? A WERID MAN WAS FOLLOW-ING YOU!?

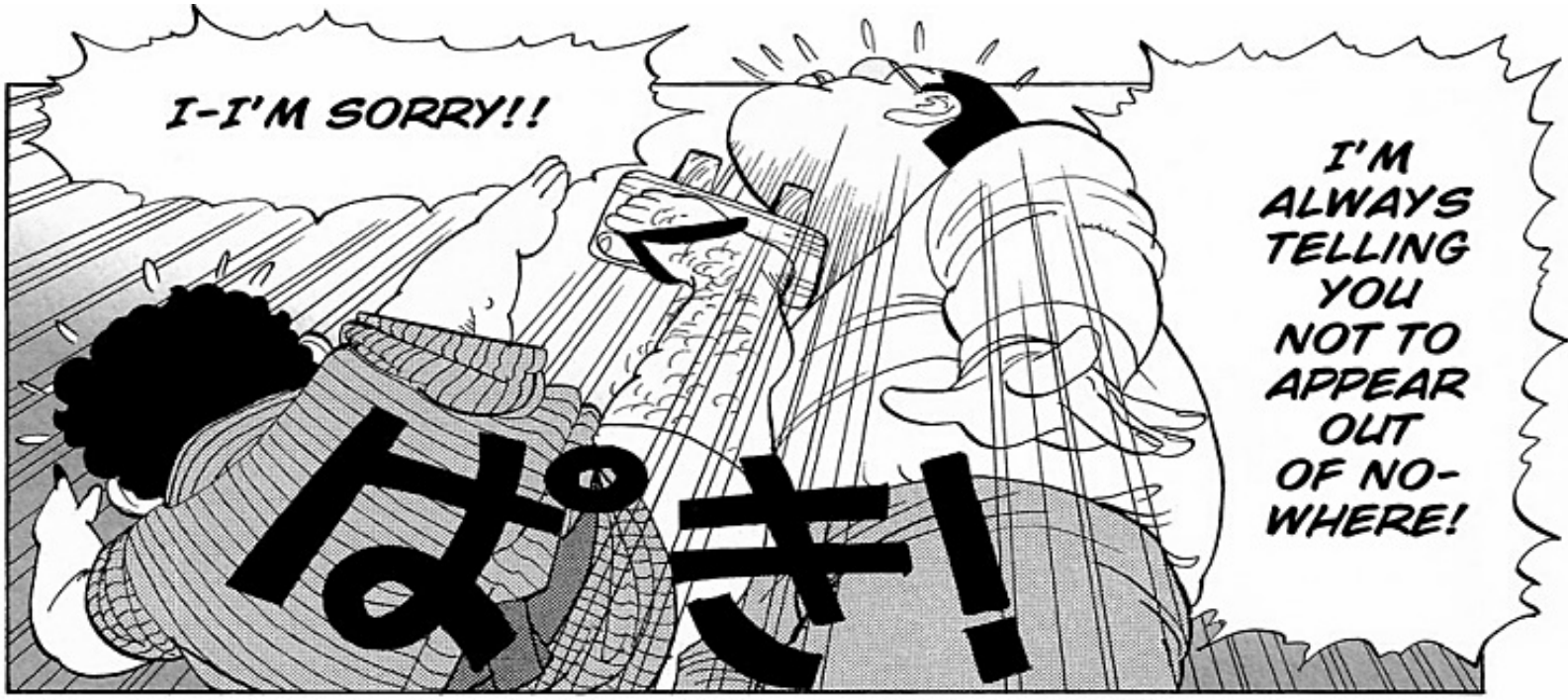
WHAT'S WRONG, TSUBAME-SAN?
バミヤン!
HAA!

AHHH... THAT WAS SO SCARY...

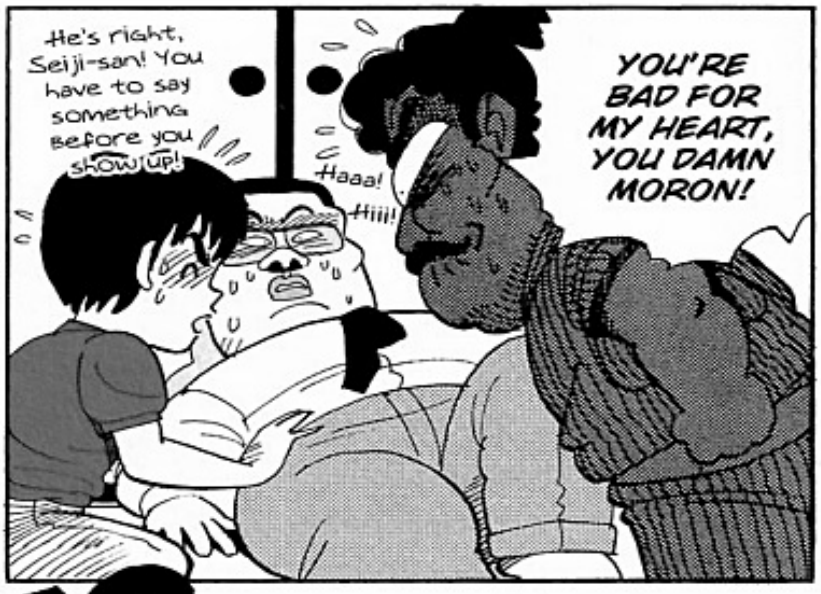
DID HE FOOL AROUND WITH YOU!?
COME TO THINK OF IT, I MET A WEIRD OLD MAN TODAY, TOO...


SO HE JUST FOLLOWED YOU!? DID HE DO ANYTHING WEIRD TO YOU!?
HE FOLLOWED ME THE WHOLE WAY FROM THE STATION! IT WAS SO CREEPY!

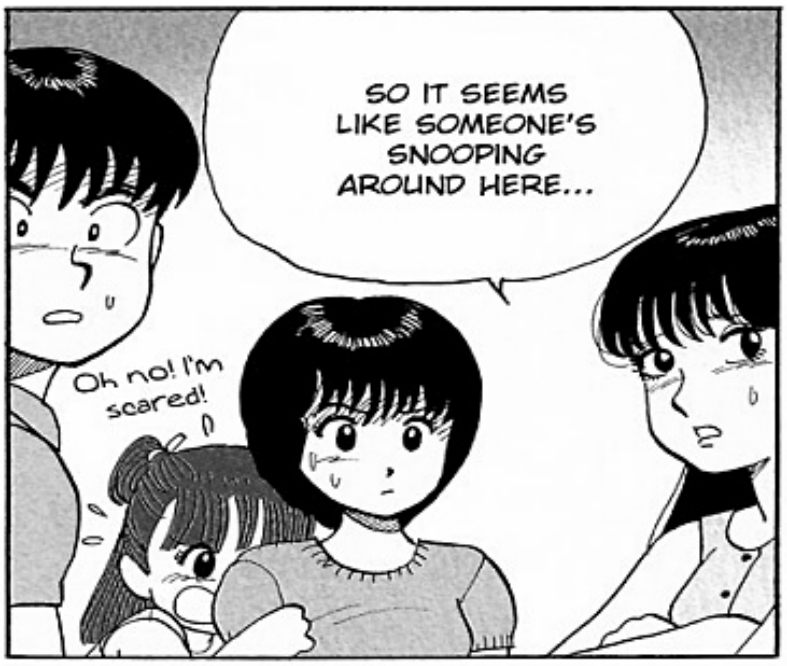
CAN YOU AND I HAVE A LITTLE CHAT?
YOU'RE FROM THE OOZORA GROUP, RIGHT?
LITTLE GIRL!
YEAH.
WELL, ON THE WAY BACK...
YOU KNOW HOW I WENT TO THE POOL WITH MICCHAN AND THE OTHERS TODAY?
Kya! Kya!
Kya! Kya!
I SAID THAT AND IGNORED HIM.
I'M BUSY! ASK ME AGAIN LATER!
BUT,
I'M SURE HE DIDN'T DO ANYTHING LIKE THAT!
DID HE RUB OR PET YOU!?
AND THEN WHAT HAPP-ENED!?
BOSS!
B-
B-
I UNDER-ESTIMATED YOU!
AFTER ALL, IF I WENT OUT WITH EVERY GUY THAT MADE A PASS AT ME, THERE'D BE NO END TO IT.

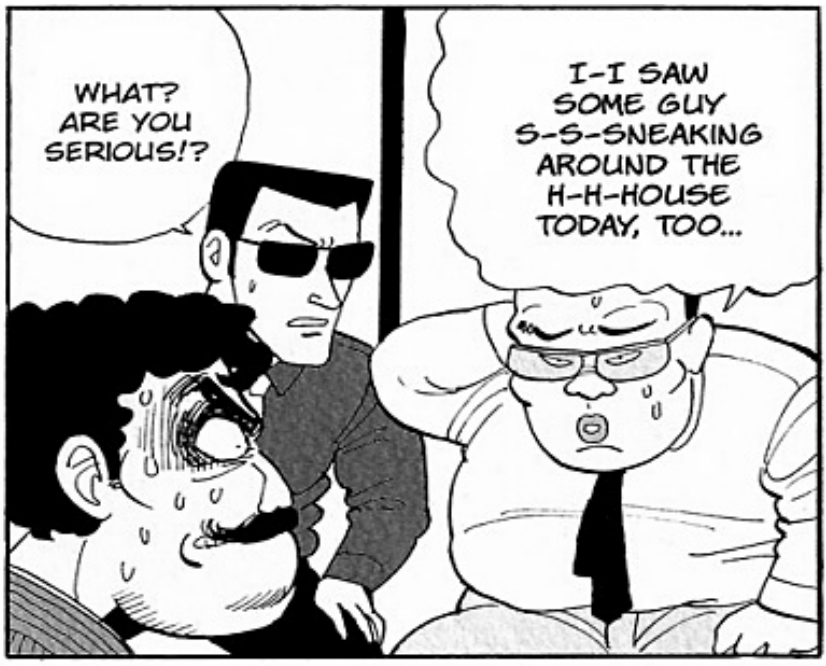

I-I'M SORRY!!
I'M ALWAYS TELLING YOU NOT TO APPEAR OUT OF NO-WHERE!
ぱき!

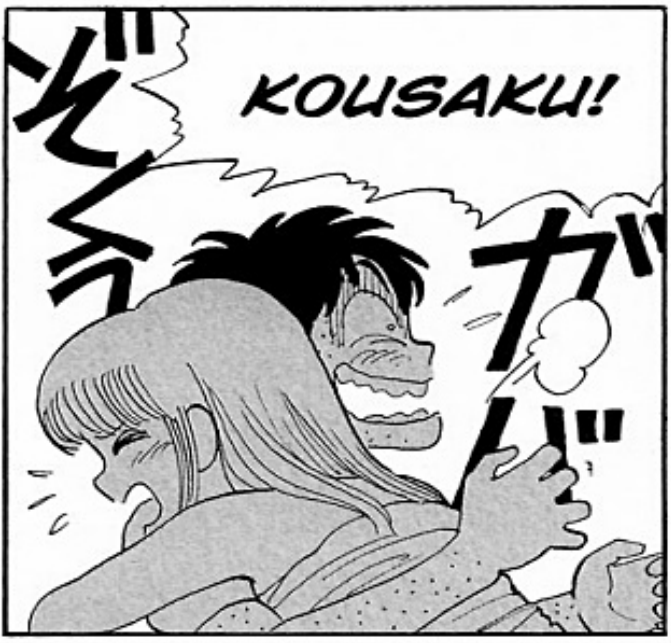
J-JUST FORGET IT...
SO WHAT IS IT!!? WHAT WERE YOU TRYING TO SAY!?


He's right, Seiji-san! You have to say something before you SHOW UP!
Haaa!
Hiii!
YOU'RE BAD FOR MY HEART, YOU DAMN MORON!

DON'T GET DEPRE-SSED!
ぽく!


SO IT SEEMS LIKE SOMEONE'S SNOOPING AROUND HERE...
Oh no! I'm scared!


WHAT? ARE YOU SERIOUS!?
I-I SAW SOME GUY S-S-SNEAKING AROUND THE H-H-HOUSE TODAY, TOO...


KOUSAKU!
ガバ

WHEN I WAS IN THE BATH, SOME-ONE WAS PEEPING AT ME!

KYAAAAAAAA!

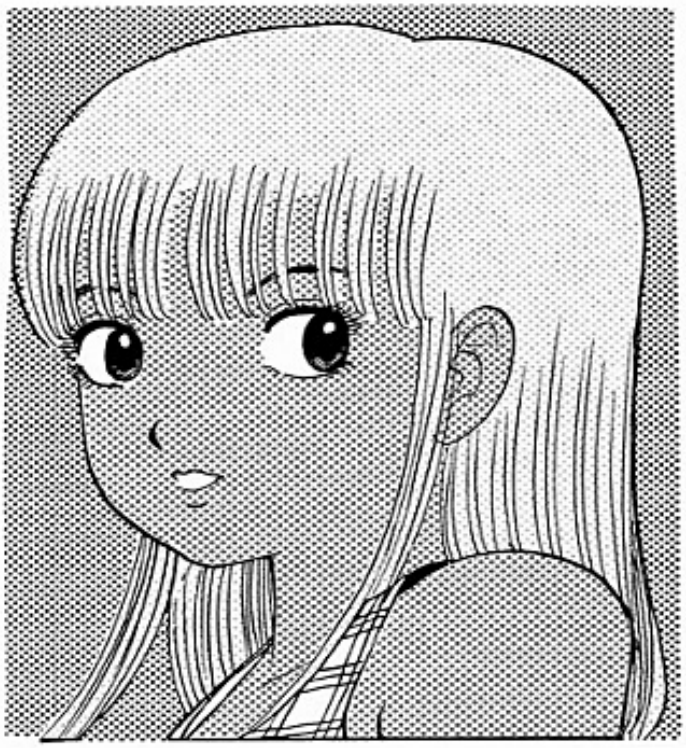
2-A
A GUY SHOULDN'T SCREAM AND MAKE A FUSS OVER GETTING PEEPED AT IN THE BATH!
JUST HURRY UP AND PUT SOME CLOTHES ON ALREADY!
I WONDER WHO THAT WAS!!
Haha!
Uh!
This is what happens when you GO berserk with a bad heart!
Oh!
Waa!
LOOK! DAD'S HAVING ANO-THER ATTACK!
URGH! ...HNN... ERMM...
IT'D BE A PROBLEM IN HIS CASE FOR SOMEONE TO PEEP AT HIM!
JUST KIDDING.
THAT WOULD BE ME.

Ahh! All your jabbering is making the panel look messy!

Man, it's been two years since my last appearance. Well, those who know me, know me, I guess...
Haha! Do you know who I am?!
Glance
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? WHO ARE YOU WAVING TO?
Right?
I'm Shiratomo!

OH WOW! I WANT TO HEAR ALL ABOUT IT RIGHT AWAY.
YES, PER YOUR REQUEST, I FINISHED LOOKING INTO KOUSAKU SAKAMOTO-KUN AND THE OOZORA FAMILY HE'S STAYING WITH.
Glance

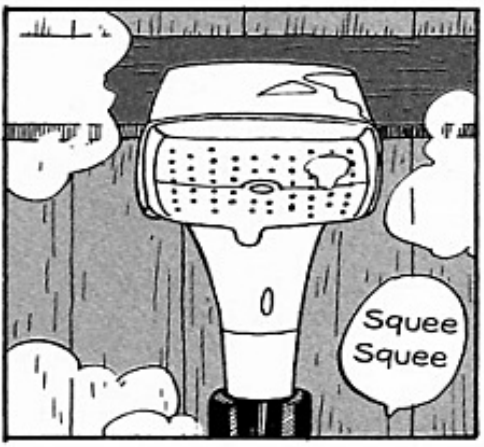
THAT'S A GUY!!



LOVE
BOMBER!!
FIRE EX
NO
PARK

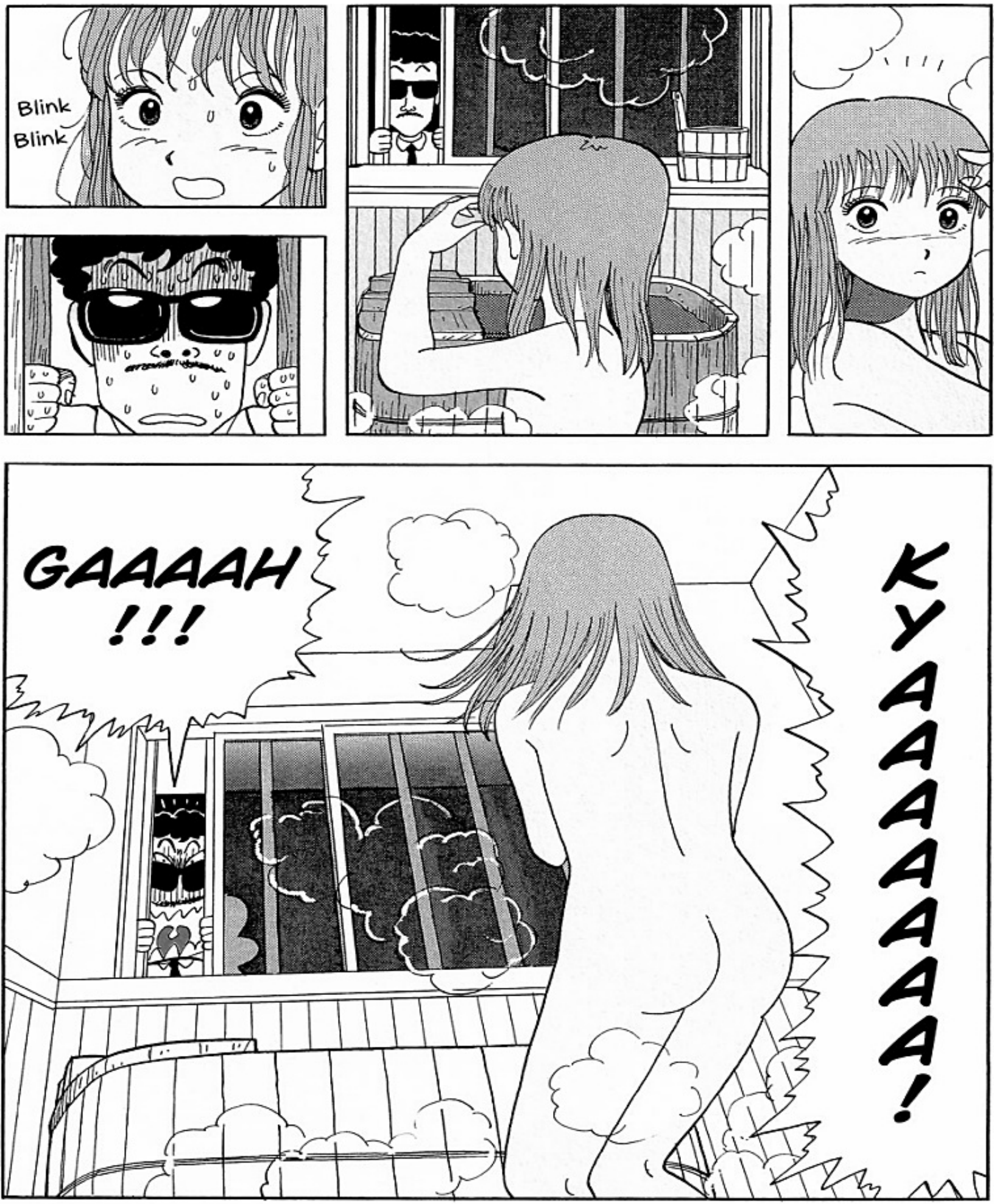
Scrub
Scrub
Scrub

ざば


Squee
Squee

しゃわーー

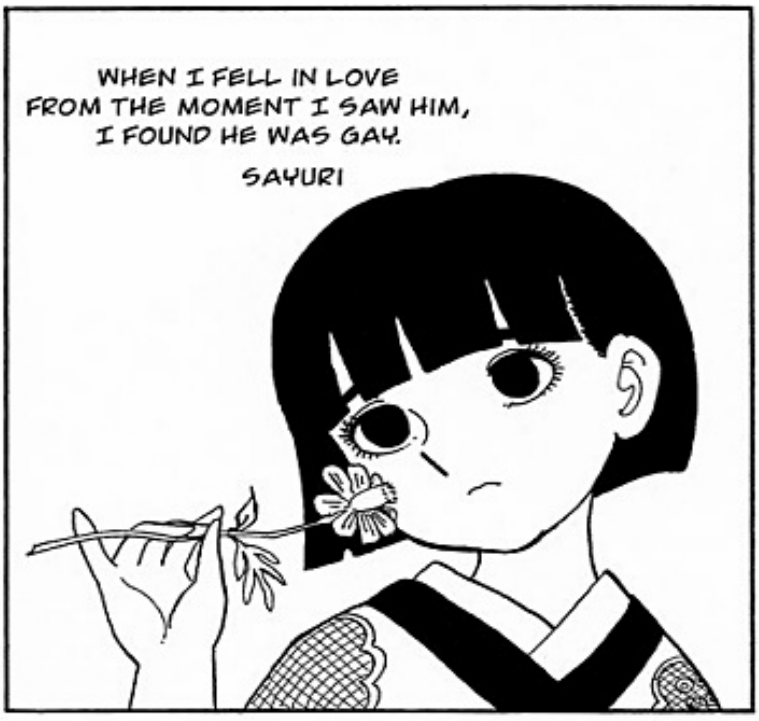
Splash


Blink
Blink
GAAAAH
!!!
KYAAAAAAA!

A GUY.
A GUY...
IT CAME AS QUITE A SHOCK!
AND SO, IF I HAD TO SAY WHE-THER I WAS SUR-PRISED OR NOT...
SEE?
ドッキン
MAN...MY HEART IS RACING JUST FROM THINKING BACK ON IT! LOOK!
ドッキン
I SAW ALL OF IT.
S...SO THEN YOU SAW IT?
HOMO-sexuality isn't an occu-pation
SAKA-MOTO-SAMA IS A HOMO-SEXU-ALIST !?
HUH !?
WHAT ABOUT YOU, MISS?
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT...

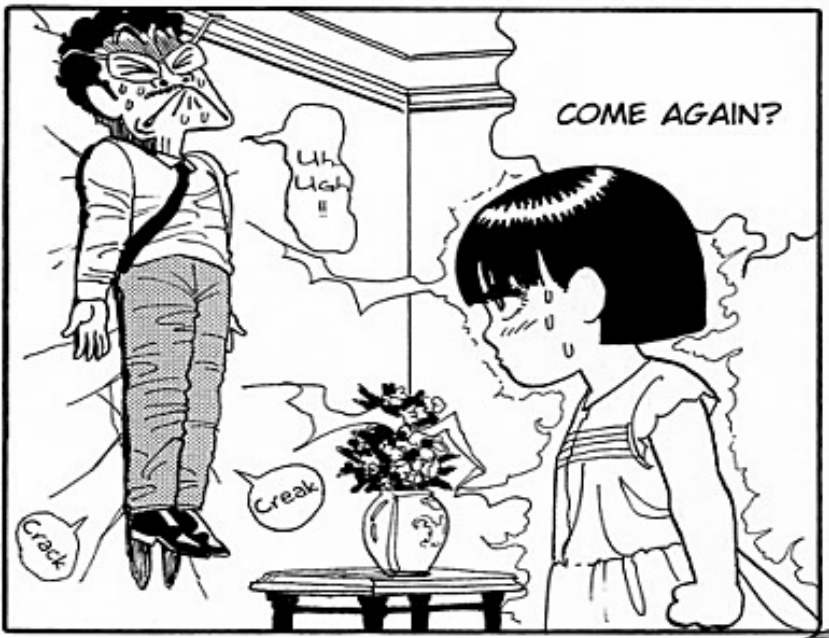
BUT I'M NOT GOING TO GIVE UP!
ガタ

WHO DOES SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
...THE INTENSE SHOCK CAUSED ME TO COMPOSE A HAIKU WITHOUT THINKING.

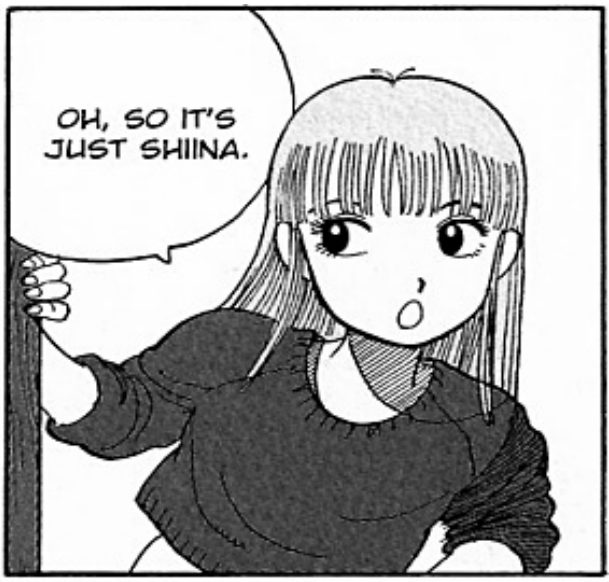

WHEN I FELL IN LOVE FROM THE MOMENT I SAW HIM, I FOUND HE WAS GAY.
SAYURI

YOU'RE A NASTY GIRL TO THE CORE!
Ha! Ha! Ha!
I'm terrible!
OH NO! LISTEN TO ME! HOW NASTY OF ME!

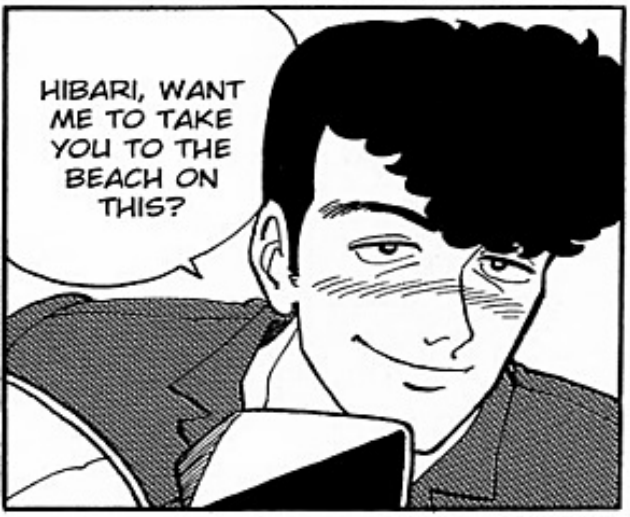
TO A DRAG QUEEN !!
AS IF I'D LOSE


COME AGAIN?
UH UGH
Creak
Crack

Squee
ドオワルーン
バオーン
ドドドドド
Wa!
KANTOU MOB RING KANTOU OOZORA GROUP
SHUT THE HELL UP, YOU DAMN BIKER! YOU WANNA DIE!?
ドキューン
ボオム



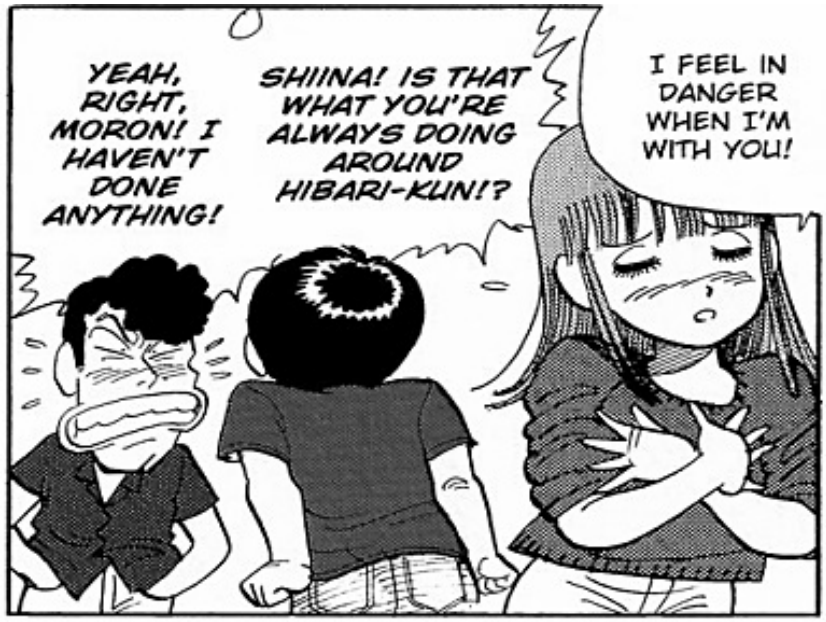
Emblem: Oozora Group

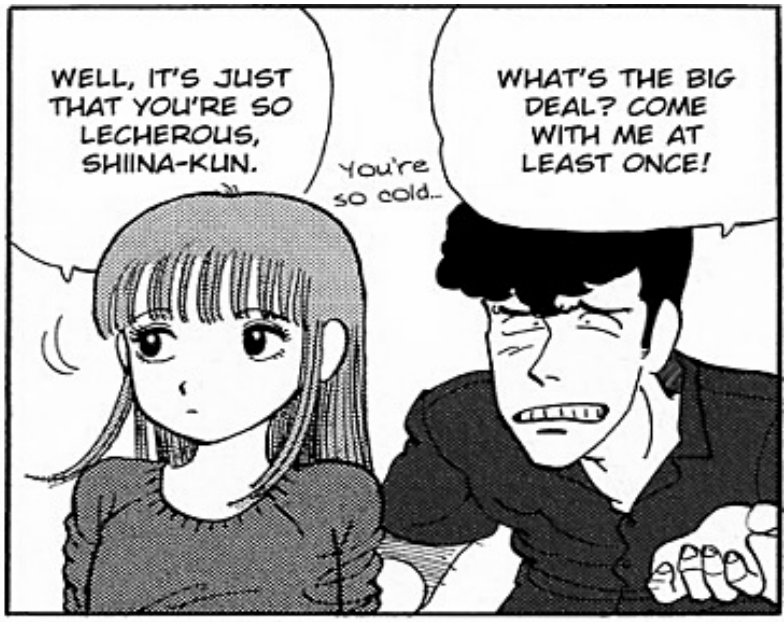


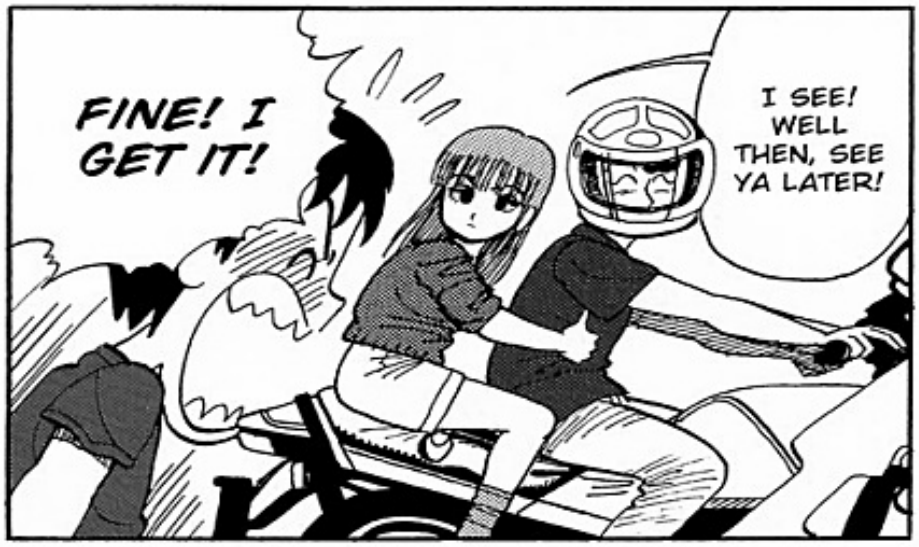
TL note: 750 Rider is a manga by Isami Ishii.

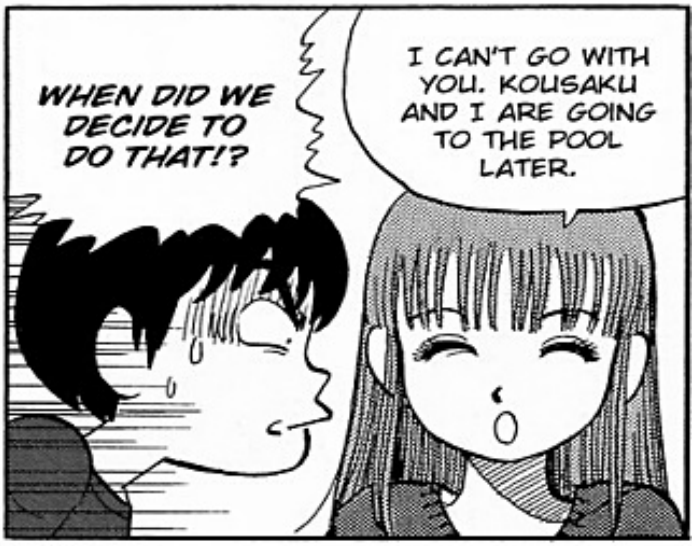
IT WOULD FEEL SO LONELY TO BID FAREWELL TO SUMMER ALL BY MYSELF.
BEFORE SUMMER ENDS, LET'S RIDE DOWN TO THE BEACH. THAT'S RIGHT. IN TANDEM WITH THAT GIRL.

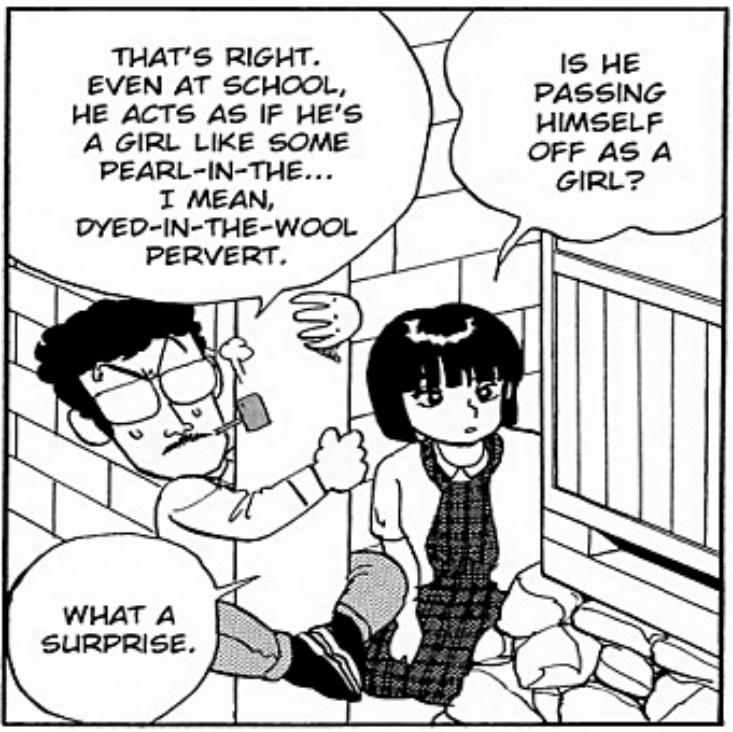
What are you jabbering about by yourself?

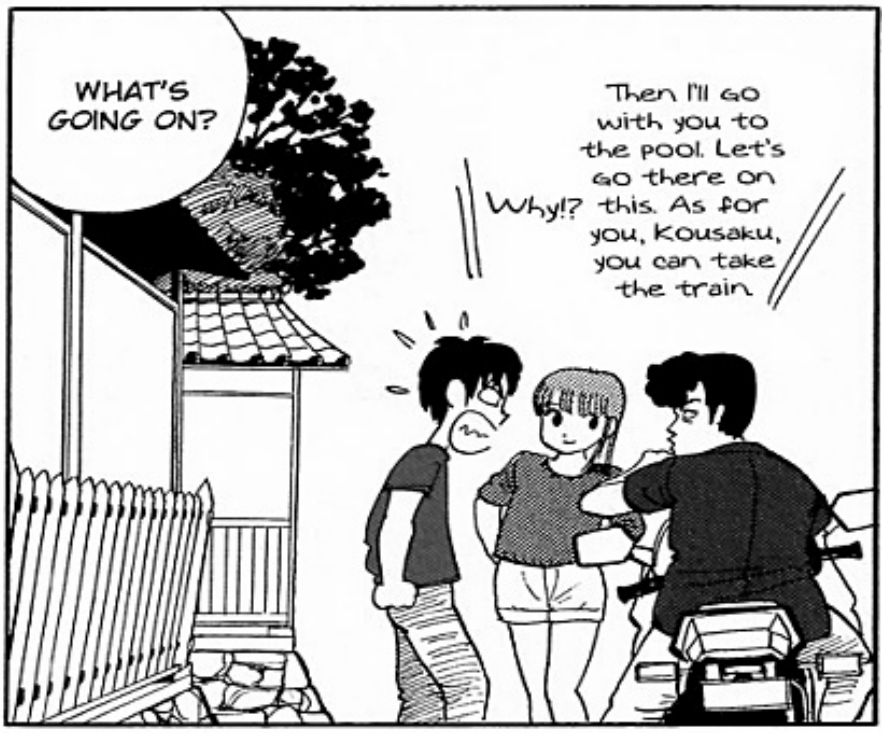

I FEEL IN DANGER WHEN I'M WITH YOU!
SHIINA! IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE ALWAYS DOING AROUND HIBARI-KUN!?
YEAH, RIGHT, MORON! I HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING!


WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL? COME WITH ME AT LEAST ONCE!
You're so cold...
WELL, IT'S JUST THAT YOU'RE SO LECHEROUS, SHIINA-KUN.


I SEE! WELL THEN, SEE YA LATER!
FINE! I GET IT!


I CAN'T GO WITH YOU. KOUSAKU AND I ARE GOING TO THE POOL LATER.
WHEN DID WE DECIDE TO DO THAT!?


IS HE PASSING HIMSELF OFF AS A GIRL?
THAT'S RIGHT. EVEN AT SCHOOL, HE ACTS AS IF HE'S A GIRL LIKE SOME PEARL-IN-THE... I MEAN, DYED-IN-THE-WOOL PERVERT.
WHAT A SURPRISE.

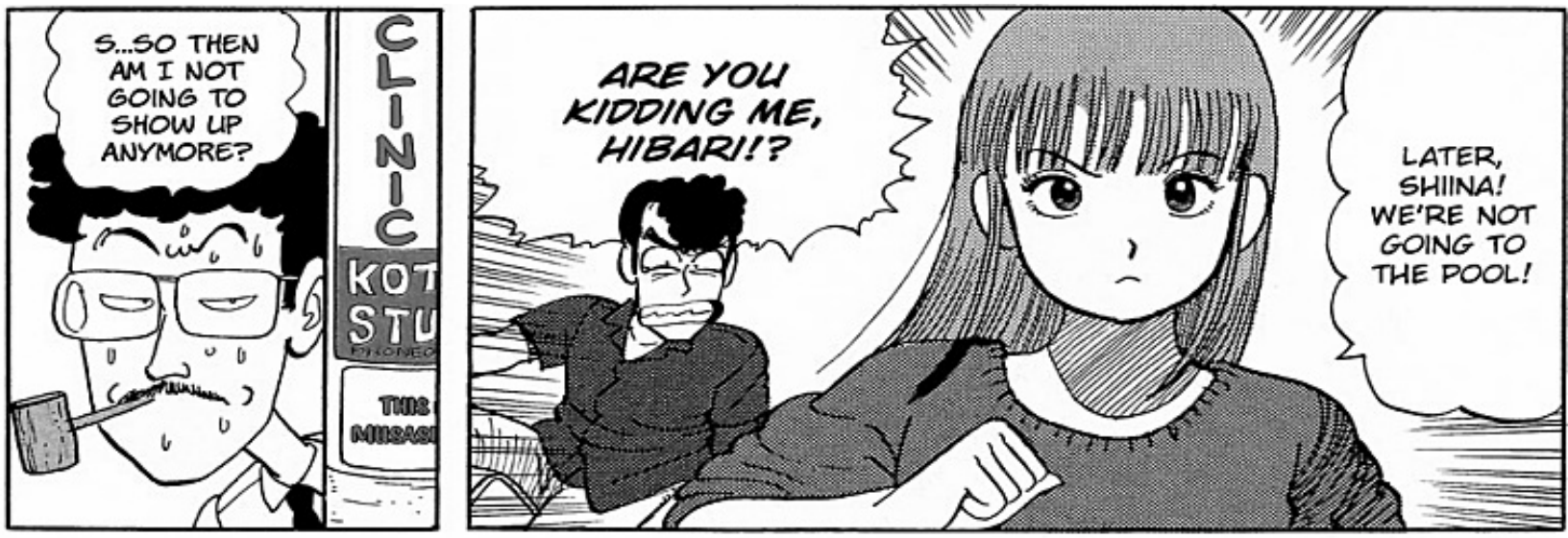

WHAT'S GOING ON?
Then I'll go with you to the pool. Let's go there on this. As for you, Kousaku, you can take the train
Why!?

IF THERE IS SOMEONE FOR EVERYONE IN THE WORLD, WHAT ABOUT HOMOS?

SAYURI

YOU'RE THAT GIRL FROM THE OTHER DAY!
WHAT A COINCIDENCE! MEETING YOU IN A PLACE LIKE THIS HAS ME SO OVERCOME WITH EMOTION THAT I CAN'T SPEAK A WORD!
You don't sound speechless.

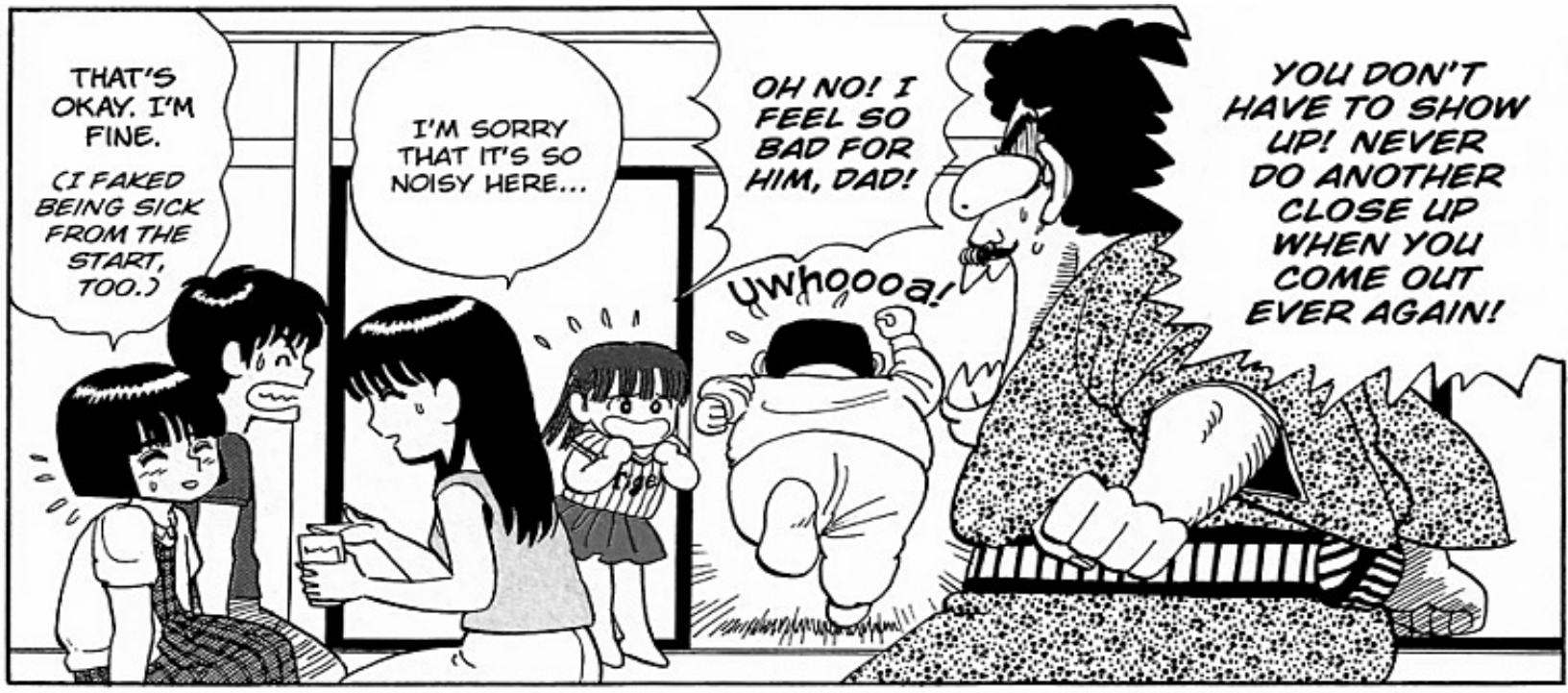
O-
OWW!
OH WOW! SO YOU TWO WENT TO THE SAME JUNIOR HIGH?
AH!
You know me, right? I was pretty well-known.
I'M SHIINA. I WAS ONE YEAR AHEAD OF YOU IN JUNIOR HIGH.
OH WOW, THIS IS WHERE YOU LIVE...? THERE ARE SO MANY COINCIDENCES TODAY.
THEN YOU SHOULD REST INSIDE. THE FAMILY HERE HAS BEEN LETTING ME STAY WITH THEM.
ALL OF A SUDDEN.
M...MY CHRONIC CRAMPS ARE ACTING UP
WHAT'S WRONG?
SHE WAS PRETTY WELL-KNOWN FOR THAT.
SHE FALLS IN LOVE REALLY EASILY, AND SHE'LL DO ANYTHING SHE CAN TO BRING HER LOVE TO FRUITION.
WELL, SHE MAY LOOK CUTE, BUT SHE'S SOMETHING ELSE.
IS SURPRISINGLY EASILY SWAYED BY CUTE GIRLS.
...IT LOOKS LIKE KOU-SAKU



TH-THIS IS SEIJI. I-I'M ABOUT TO COME OUT, SO...
Just shut up!
I'M Shiratomo! Raise your hand if you're my fan!
Ahh! I'm so busy!
All right, I'll look around the Oozora Group house a little more. There might be something there!
Dash
None of you know who I am, right? Damn it! Just watch, me!
That damn Eguchi!
Man! This is what always happens! Right when I let my guard down like this, I don't show up anymore!
Yeah, it's just like a wave. When I was in Hinomaru Gekijou, it was a night-mare.
Ahh! I want to be a main character!

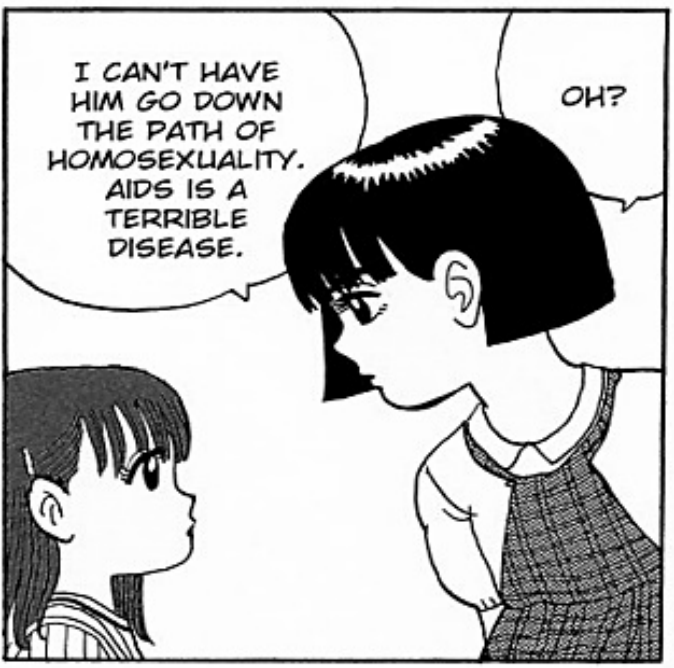
TL note: Hinomaru Gekijou is another manga by Hisashi Eguchi.

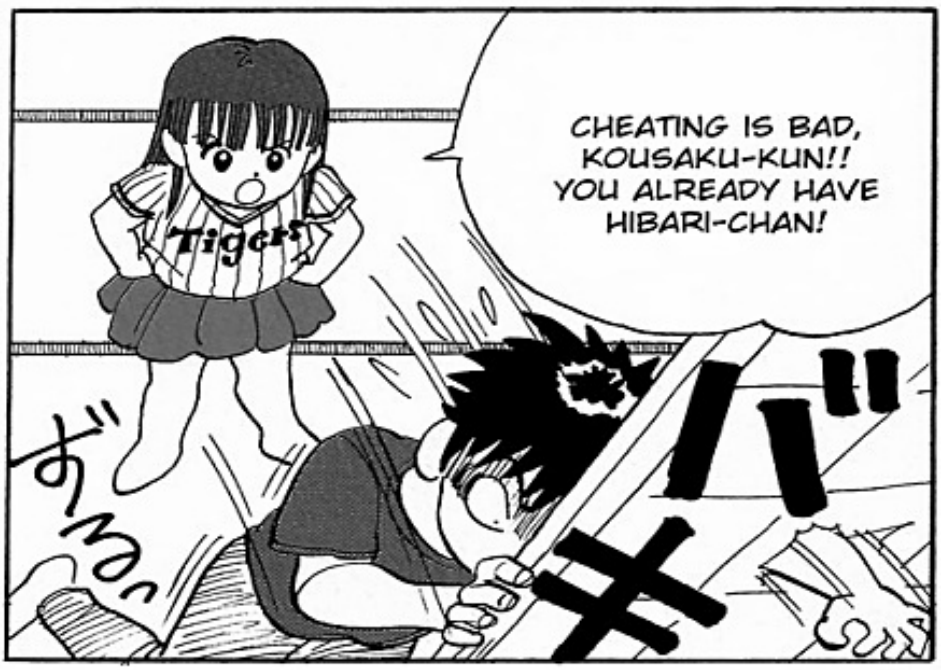
© Toho

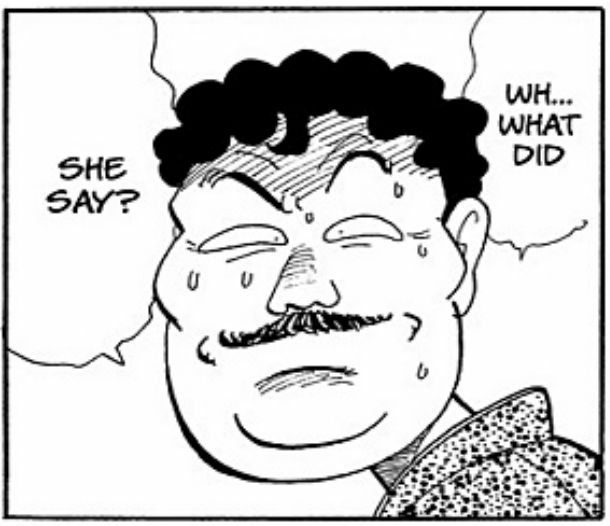

THAT'S OKAY. I'M FINE.
(I FAKED BEING SICK FROM THE START, TOO.)
I'M SORRY THAT IT'S SO NOISY HERE...
OH NO! I FEEL SO BAD FOR HIM, DAD!
Uwhoooa!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO SHOW UP! NEVER DO ANOTHER CLOSE UP WHEN YOU COME OUT EVER AGAIN!

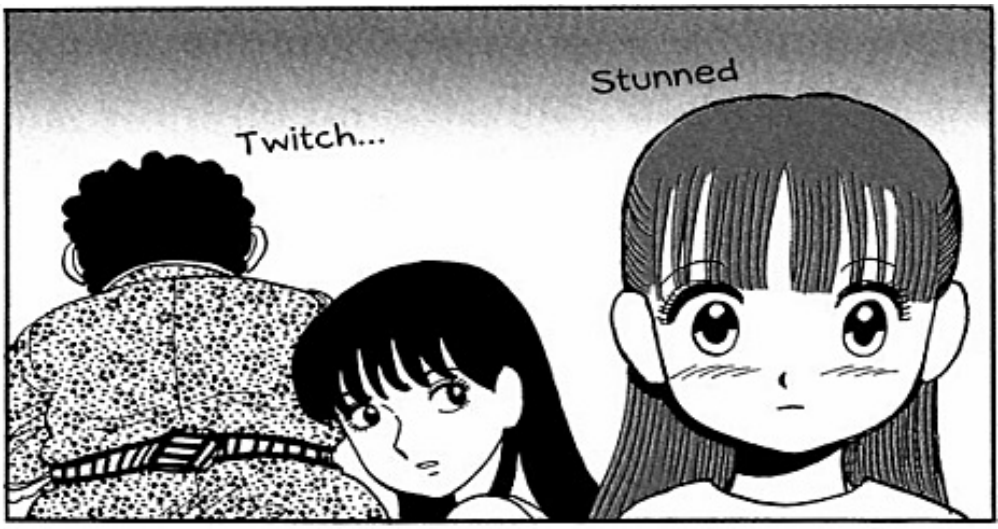
HUH? I WOULDN'T SAY THAT.
OH, WHY DON'T YOU GO SHOW HER?
You're so popular!

...UM, I WANT TO SEE YOUR ROOM, SAKAMOTO-SAMA.


I CAN'T HAVE HIM GO DOWN THE PATH OF HOMOSEXUALITY. AIDS IS A TERRIBLE DISEASE.
OH?


CHEATING IS BAD, KOUSAKU-KUN!! YOU ALREADY HAVE HIBARI-CHAN!
Tigers
ずるっ


WH... WHAT DID SHE SAY?


Stunned
Twitch...

DO YOU LIKE GUYS MORE THAN GIRLS?

SAKAMOTO-SAN,

AH!
SAKAMOTO-SAN...

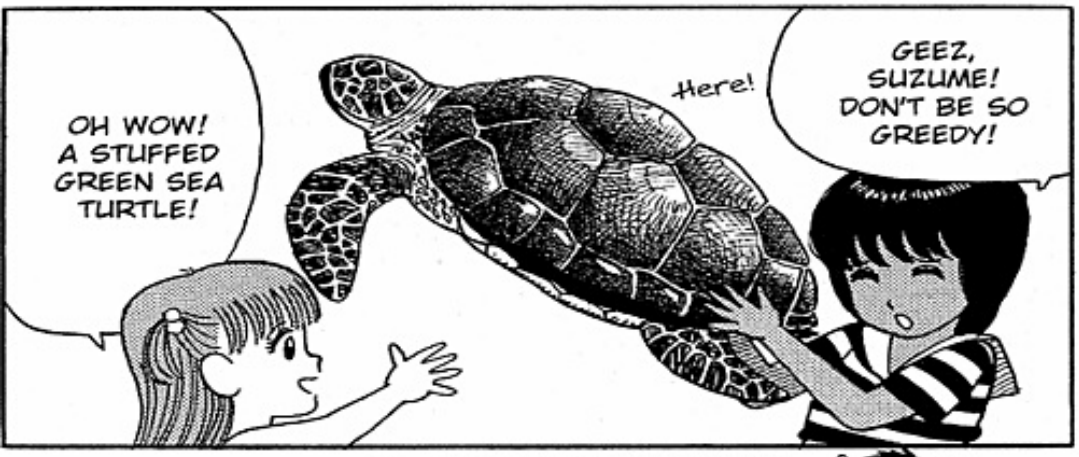
WHY WOULD YOU ASK THAT!!? LIKE HELL I DO! I'M NORMAL!

H-HOW DO YOU...
I'M NOT LIKE THAT DRAG QUEEN.
IT FEELS DIFFERENT FROM HIBARI-SAN, RIGHT?
YOUR YOUTH WILL END UP IN SHAMBLES!
IF YOU SPEND EVERY DAY IN THIS WEIRD ENVIRONMENT LIKE THIS SURROUNDED BY A DRAG QUEEN AND THE MOB,
FROM WHAT?
I WANT TO SAVE YOU.
DON'T DO ANYTHING WEIRD!
DON'T I ALWAYS LET YOU TOUCH MY CHEST!?
AH!
HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO KEEP TOUCHING HER CHEST, KOUSAKU!?

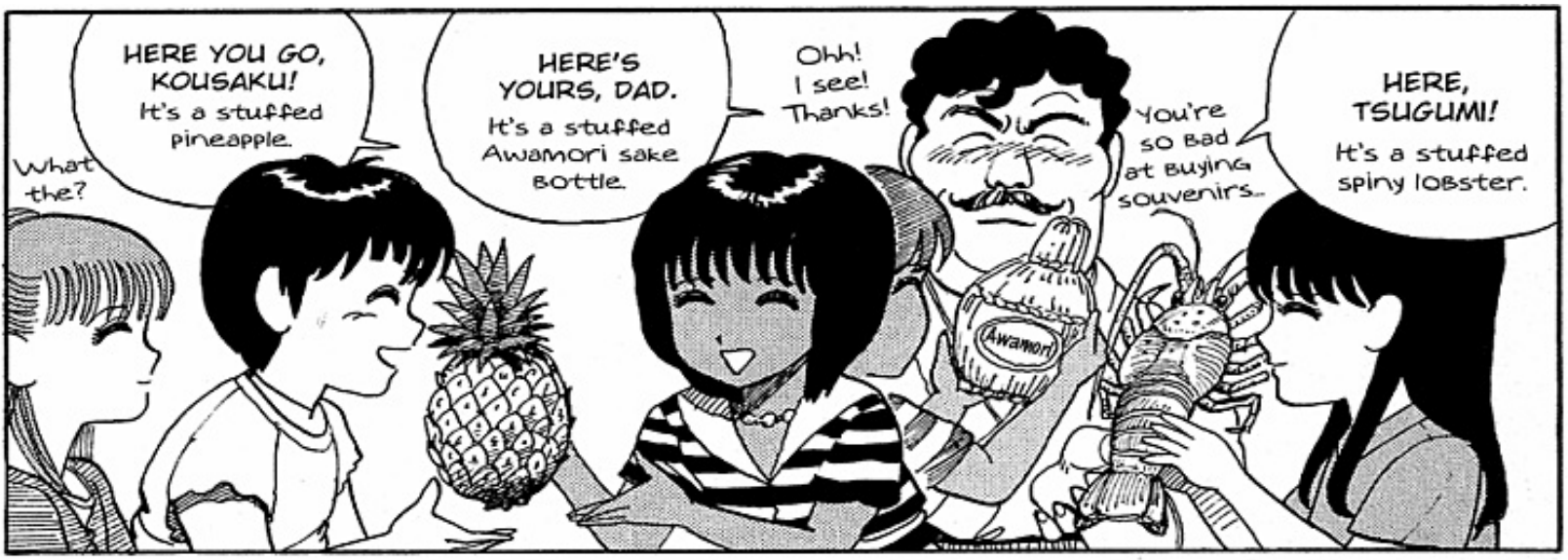
AHHHHHHHH!
ドキ…
HUh!?
HEY! THEY CAUGHT THE GUY SNOOPING AROUND THE HOUSE!
たた
たた
Y-You're such a clumsy detective!
Running away with him.
だだだだ
だだだだ
You think you can get away!?
THAT'S THE GUY WHO WAS PEEPING AT ME IN THE BATH!
DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY, SUB! I'M GONNA BEAT HIM WITHIN AN INCH OF HIS LIFE!
10
MOM, NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, I DEFINITELY AM EXPERIENCING AN ABNORMAL YOUTH..... AHH, WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN TO ME...!!?

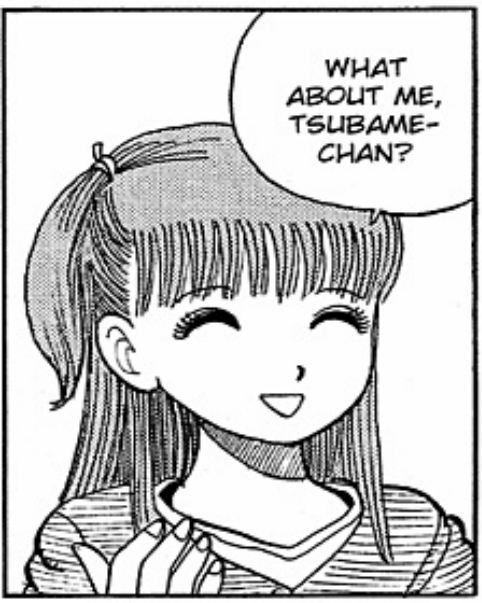
A STRANGE LOVE TRIANGLE

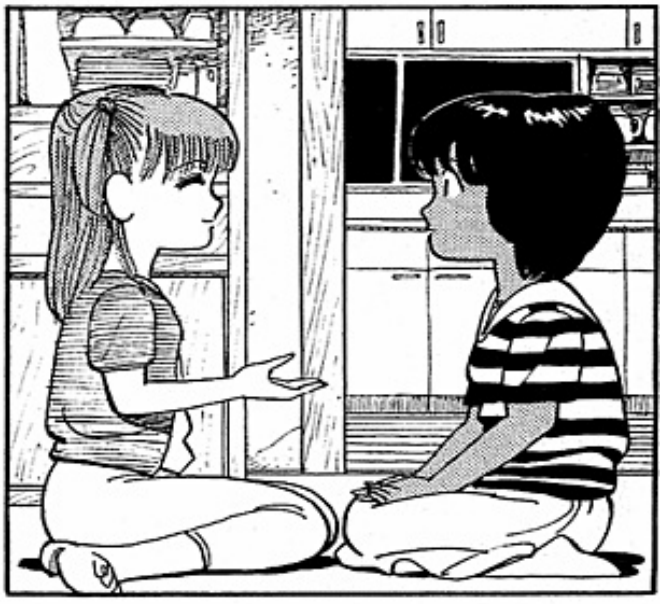
HEY! DID YOU BRING ME ANYTHING?
HMM, IT WASN'T THAT BAD, BUT IT WAS TIRING WITH ALL THE NEWLYWEDS AROUND.
HOW WAS YORONJIMA? WAS IT STILL CROWDED?



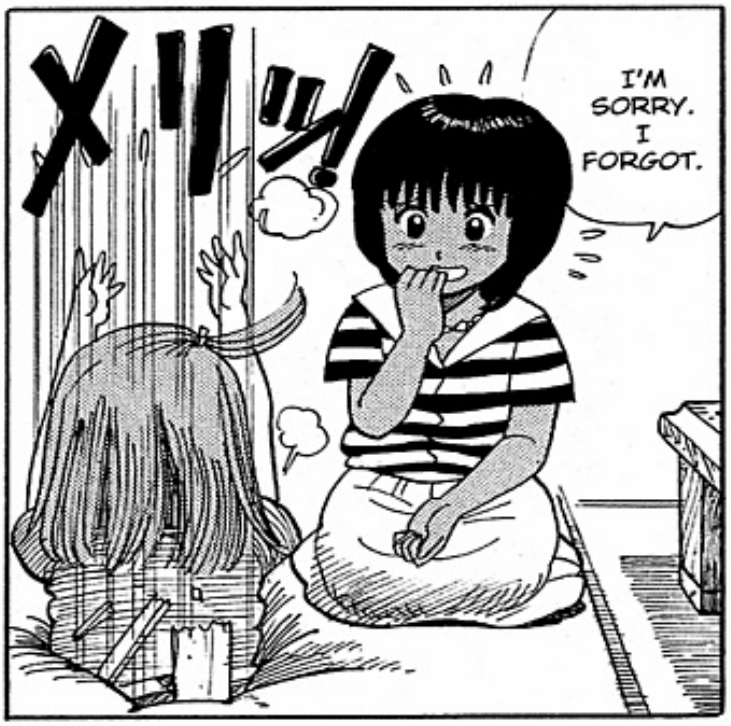
Wh...What an amazing souvenir...


HERE YOU GO, KOUSAKU! It's a stuffed pineapple.
What the?
HERE'S YOURS, DAD. It's a stuffed Awamori sake bottle.
Ohh! I see! Thanks!
Awamori
You're so bad at buying souvenirs.
HERE, TSUGUMI! It's a stuffed spiny lobster.

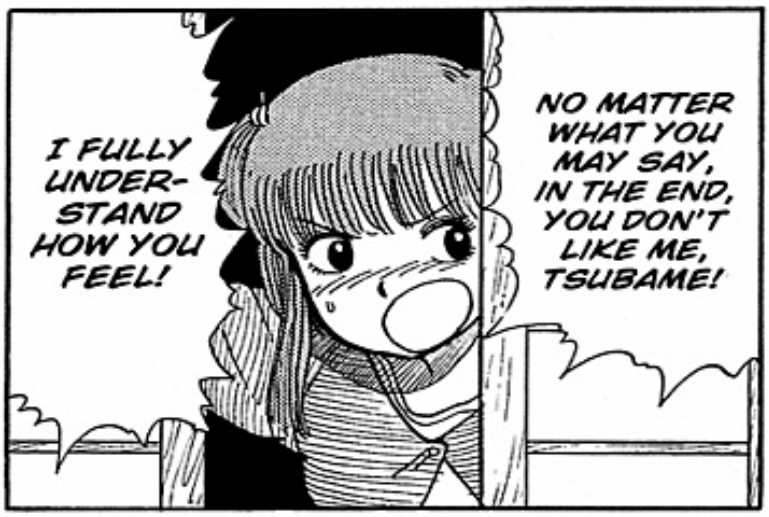


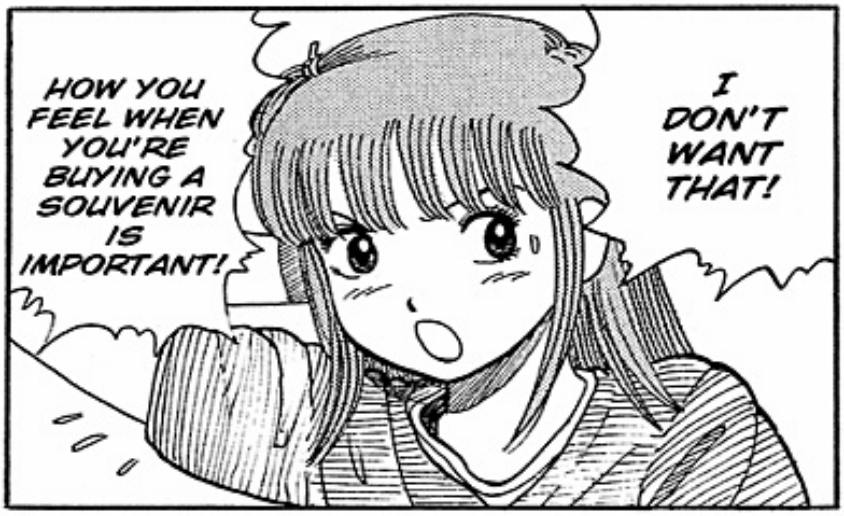


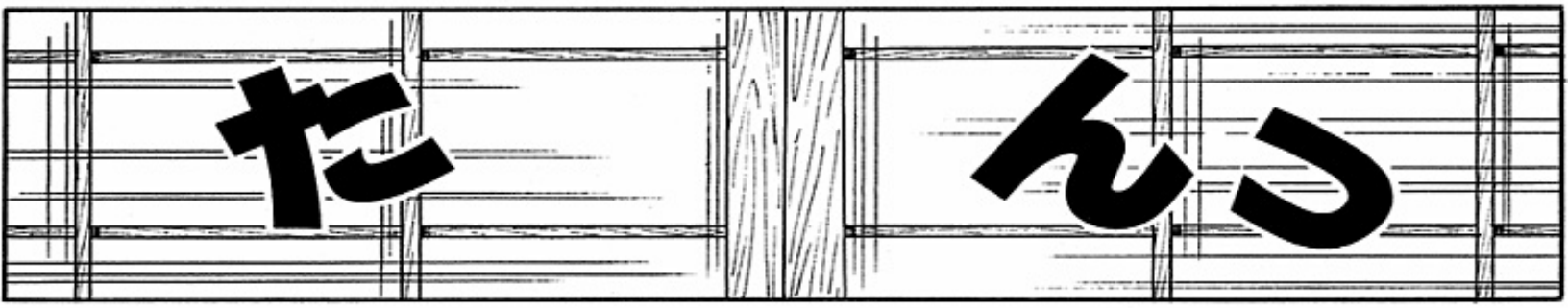
Hibari's face turned out odd.



ガオン
HERE! I'LL GIVE YOU THIS!
ENOUGH! EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE A MAN, QUIT YOUR WHINING OVER ONE OR TWO SOUVENIRS!


I FULLY UNDER-STAND HOW YOU FEEL!
NO MATTER WHAT YOU MAY SAY, IN THE END, YOU DON'T LIKE ME, TSUBAME!


HOW YOU FEEL WHEN YOU'RE BUYING A SOUVENIR IS IMPORTANT!
I DON'T WANT THAT!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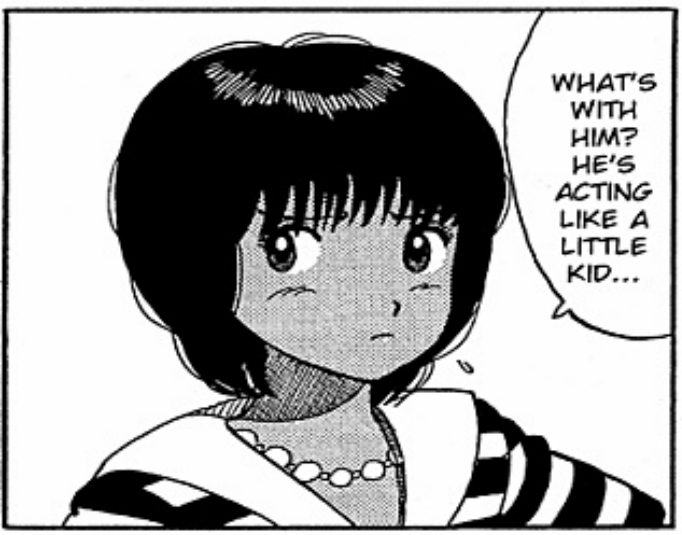
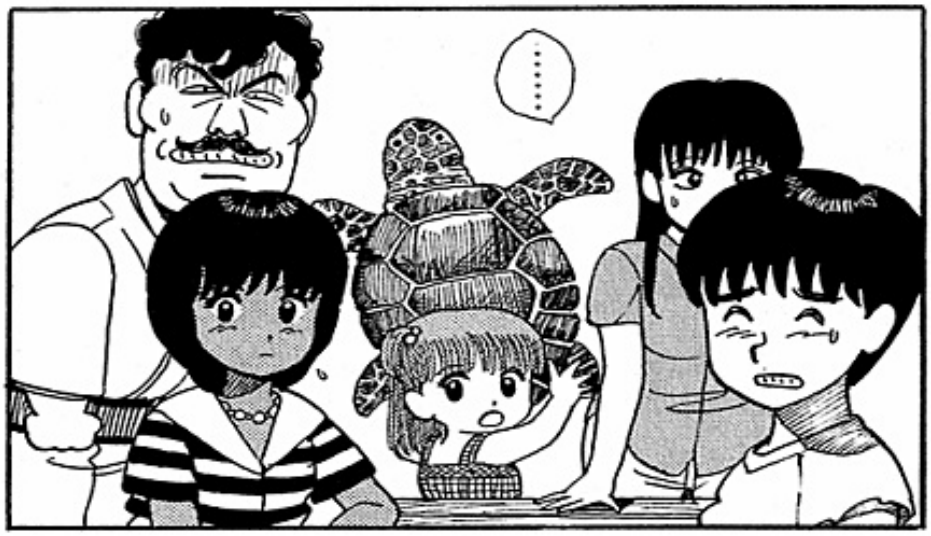

WHAT'S WITH HIM? HE'S ACTING LIKE A LITTLE KID...


……

TAKE A LOOK AT THIS! ISN'T IT CRAZY?
THE INTENSITY OF THE SUN IS DIFFERENT ON YORONJIMA COMPARED TO THE LOCAL POOL.
BUT YOU'RE MUCH DARKER THAN ME, TSUBAME-CHAN! THIS SUCKS!
HEY, TSUBAME! THERE'S A YOUNG MAN HERE.
Ah hem!
AH!
Sorry!
AH! IT'S OKAY...
YOU LOOK ALL RED, KOU-SAKU-KUN!
どき
YOU DON'T HAVE ENOUGH UP HERE TO BE BOTHERED BY SOMEONE SEEING THEM, RIGHT?
KYAA!
Shut

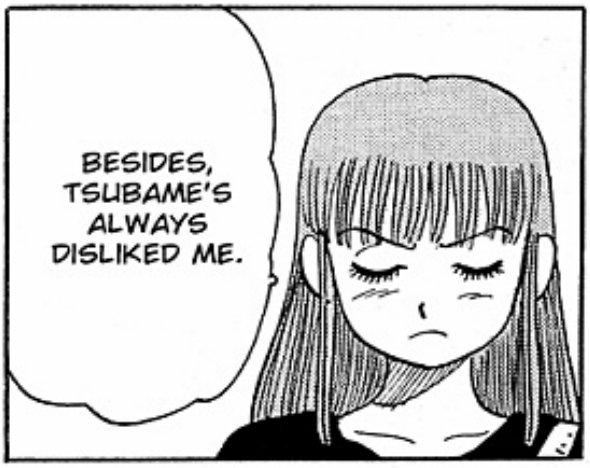
ば――――ん
YOU'RE SO STUPID, TSU-BAME!
OWWW!
AND QUIT OGLING HER, KOU-SAKU!
WH...WHAT'S GOING ON?
ENOUGH! DON'T FIGHT OVER SOMETHING SO PETTY!
HIBARI! GET BACK HERE!

ずん!!
えんずいぎり!!
EVEN AFTER TELLING YOU 160 TIMES NOT TO DO A CLOSE UP WHEN YOU COME OUT, YOU STILL DON'T GET IT!?
SORRY, KOUSAKU-SAN, BUT COULD YOU WET A TOWEL AND...
Waaa! I hate when it's like this!
DAD! THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU PULL A BIG MOVE LIKE THAT WITH A BAD HEART!
HRRRNNN!
どさあ!!
TH...THAT WAS MY F-FIRST TIME SEEING A WOMAN'S B...BOOBS IN PERSON...
Ba-dump
Ba-dump
Ba-dump
Ba-dump
Ba-dump
Ba-dump
Ba-dump
Ba-da
Ba-da
Ba-da
Ba-da
ガク

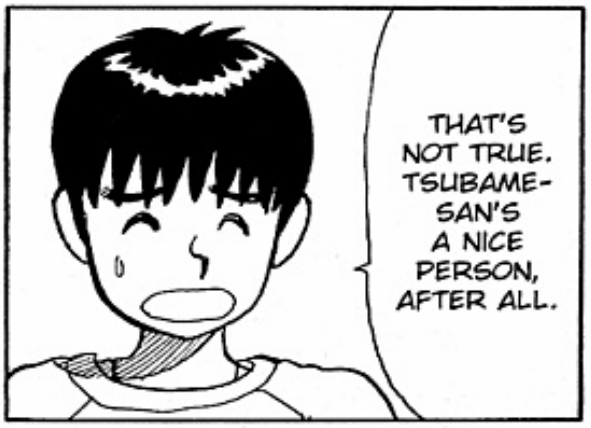
AHH... MORNING, KOUSAKU-KUN.
Slosh
Slosh
Slosh
Splash
Splash
Splash
THANKS.
AH! GO AHEAD. I'M ALREADY DONE.
AH... G-GOOD MORNING.
Splash
Splash
Splash
Splash
Splash
Splash

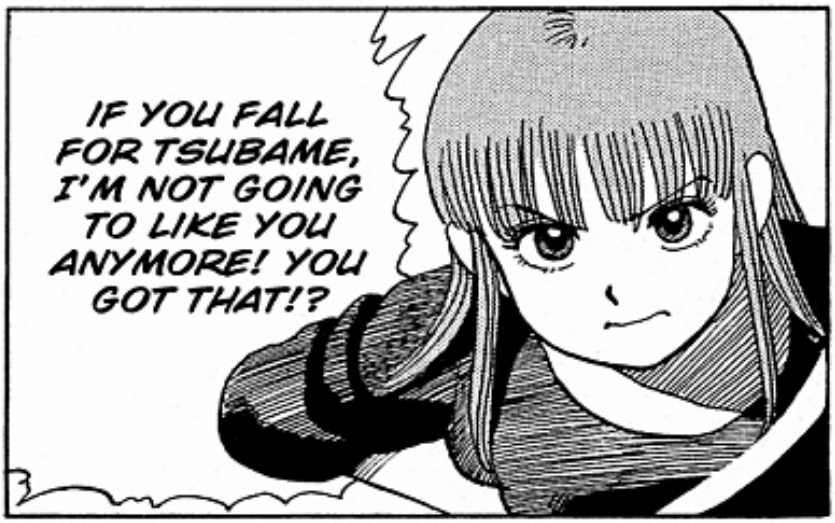
WHAT IS IT, KOUSAKU-KUN...?
.....?
Flustered
Twitch
...WELL, I'LL SEE YOU LATER.
AH! IT'S NOTHING.
AHHHH! AHHHH!
AFTER GETTING TANNED, EVEN IF YOU TAKE OFF THE MASK, YOU ARE STILL UGLY.
HIBARI
GAAAAH!
Riiip

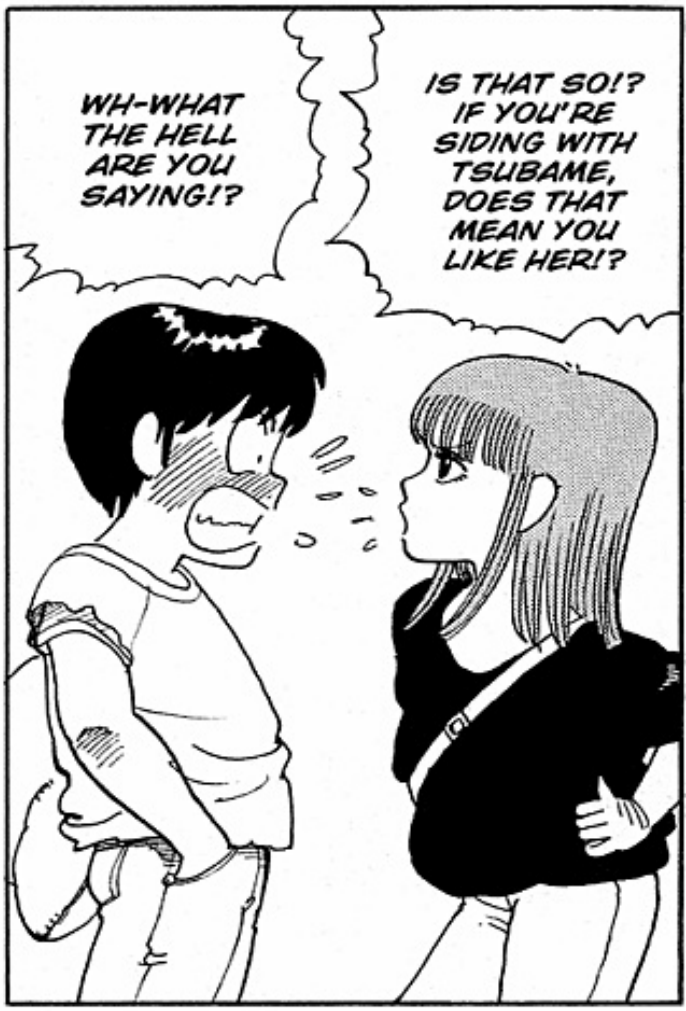
がん
ばっ!
THIS IS MY SKIRT!
Kya!
Sip
Hmph!
Gulp
Chew
Chew
Fights between girls really are unrelenting!
Dad, Hibari-chan isn't a girl.
COULD YOU TWO GIVE IT A REST ALREADY?
ずだ!!
ゼん!!
I see! I'm not going to talk to you for the rest of my life!
I'm not going to talk to you for the time being, so keep that in mind!

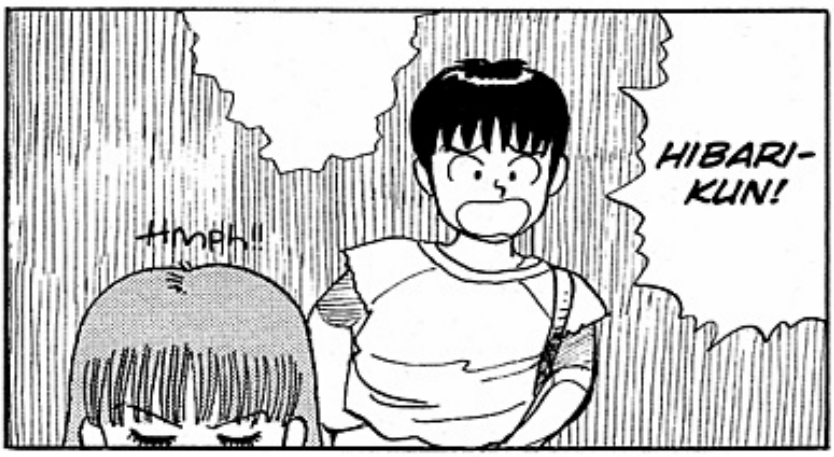

BESIDES, TSUBAME'S ALWAYS DISLIKED ME.

WELL I'M NOT AN ADULT!
DON'T GET MAD OVER SOMETHING LIKE HER NOT BUYING YOU A SOUVENIR. IT'S SO CHILDISH...


THAT'S NOT TRUE. TSUBAME-SAN'S A NICE PERSON, AFTER ALL.

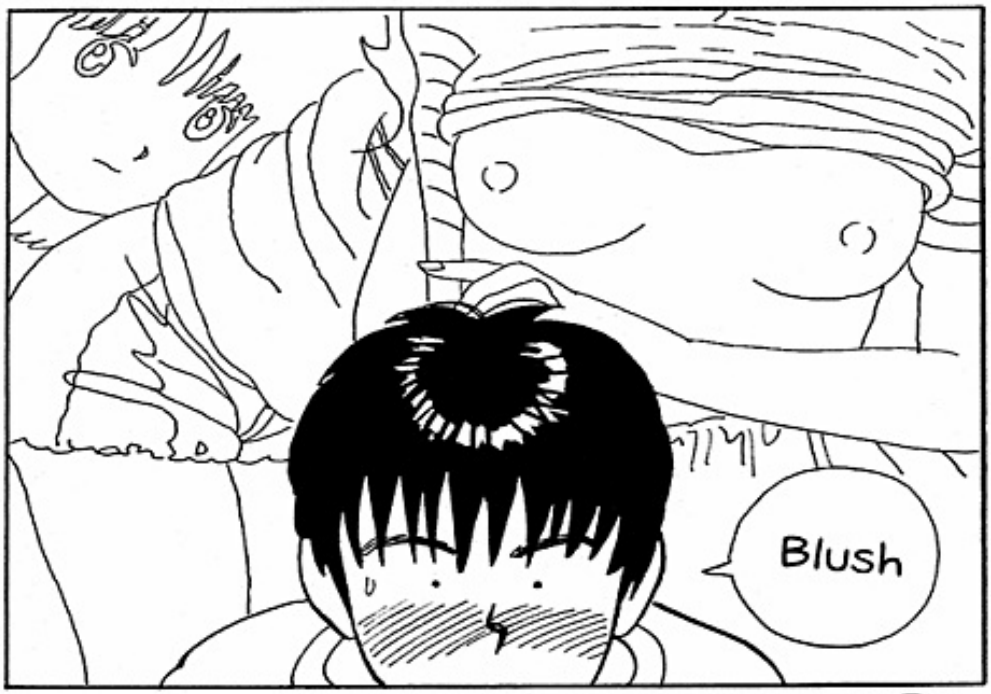

IF YOU FALL FOR TSUBAME, I'M NOT GOING TO LIKE YOU ANYMORE! YOU GOT THAT!?


WH-WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU SAYING!?
IS THAT SO!? IF YOU'RE SIDING WITH TSUBAME, DOES THAT MEAN YOU LIKE HER!?


HIBARI-KUN!
Hmph!!

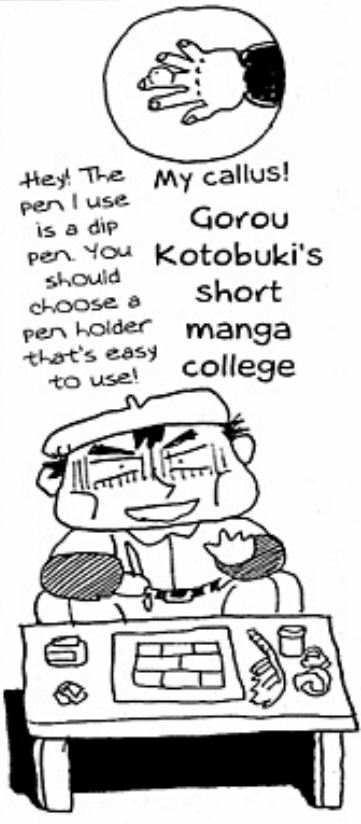
Whew...
SHEESH...

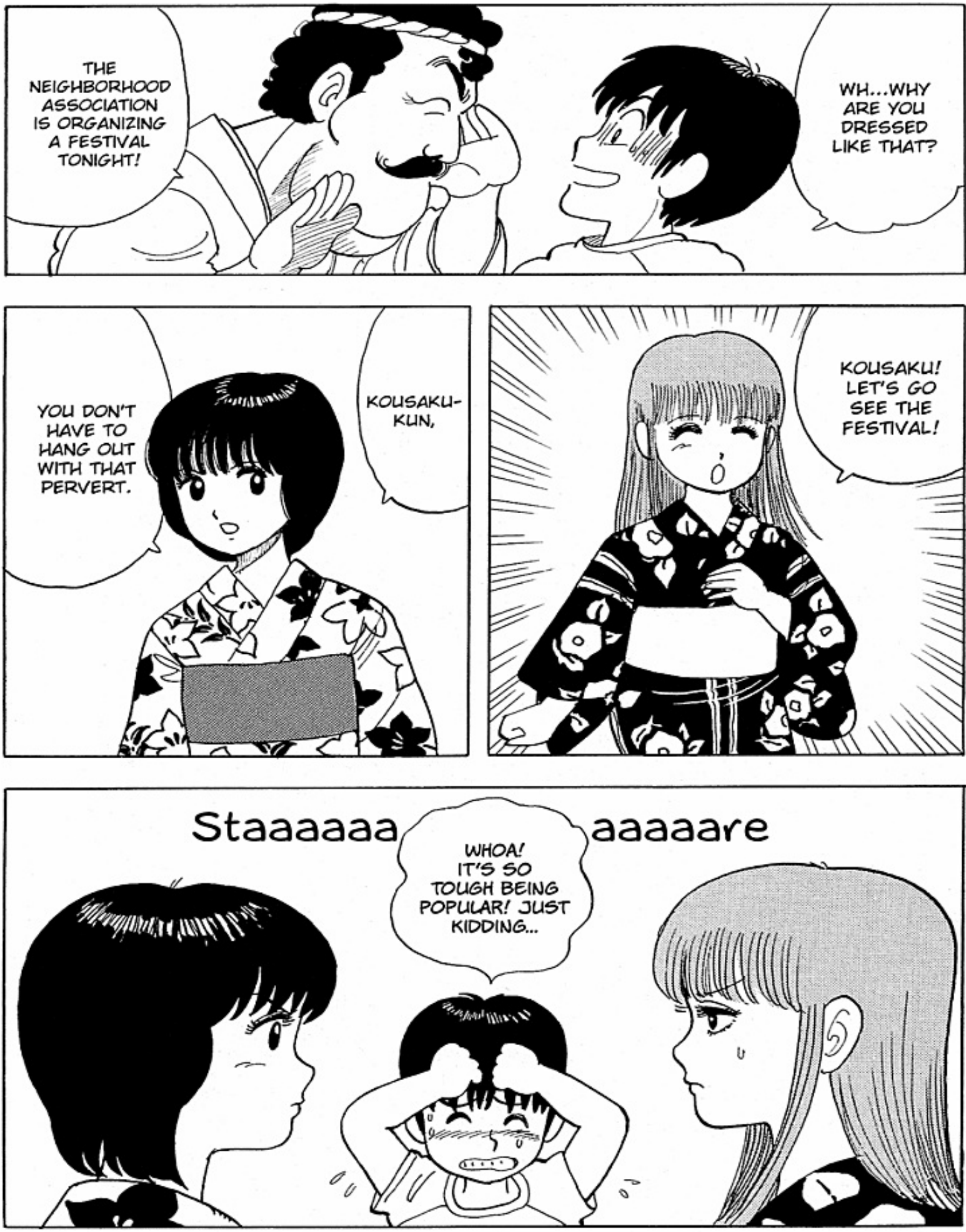
Wipe

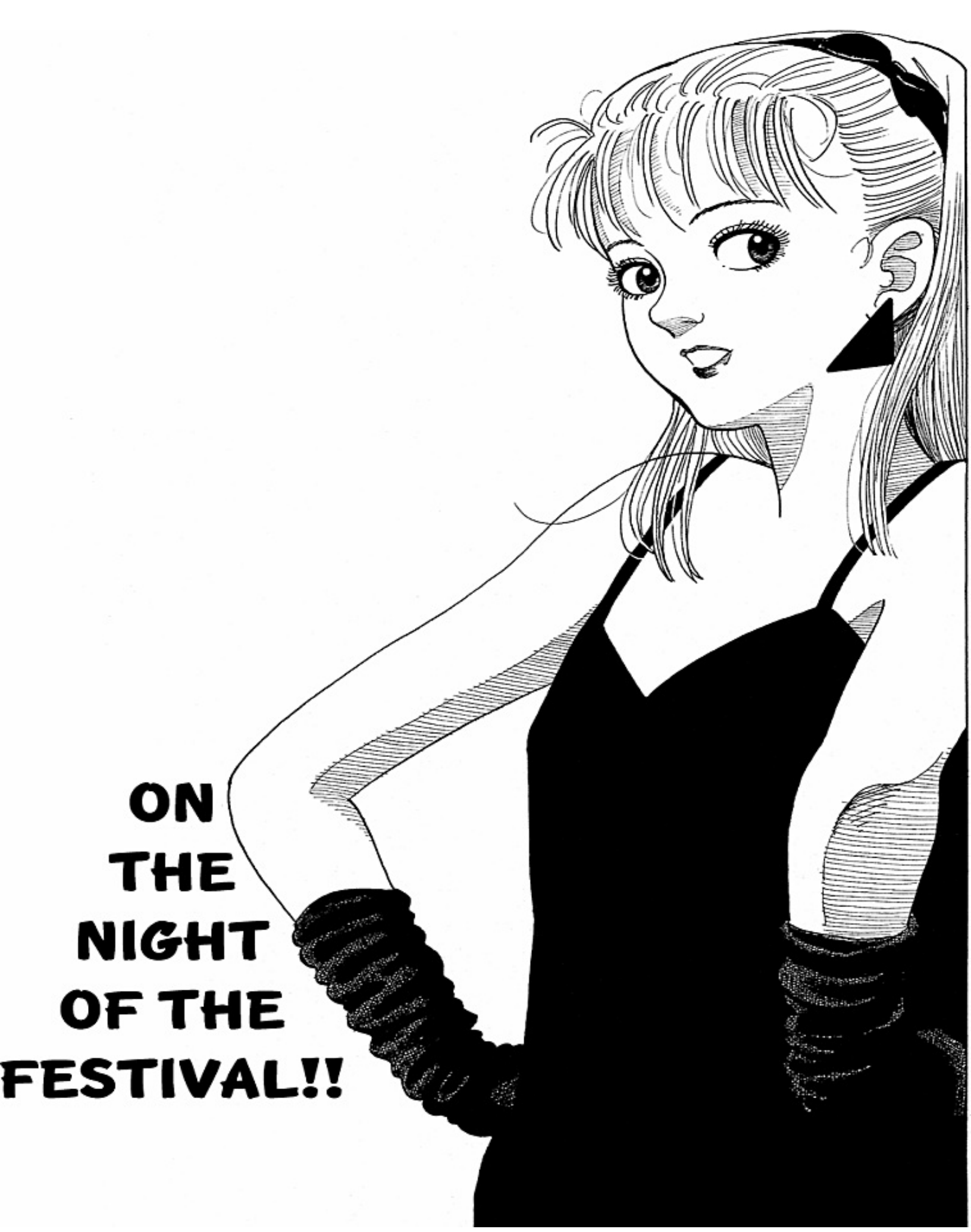

Blush

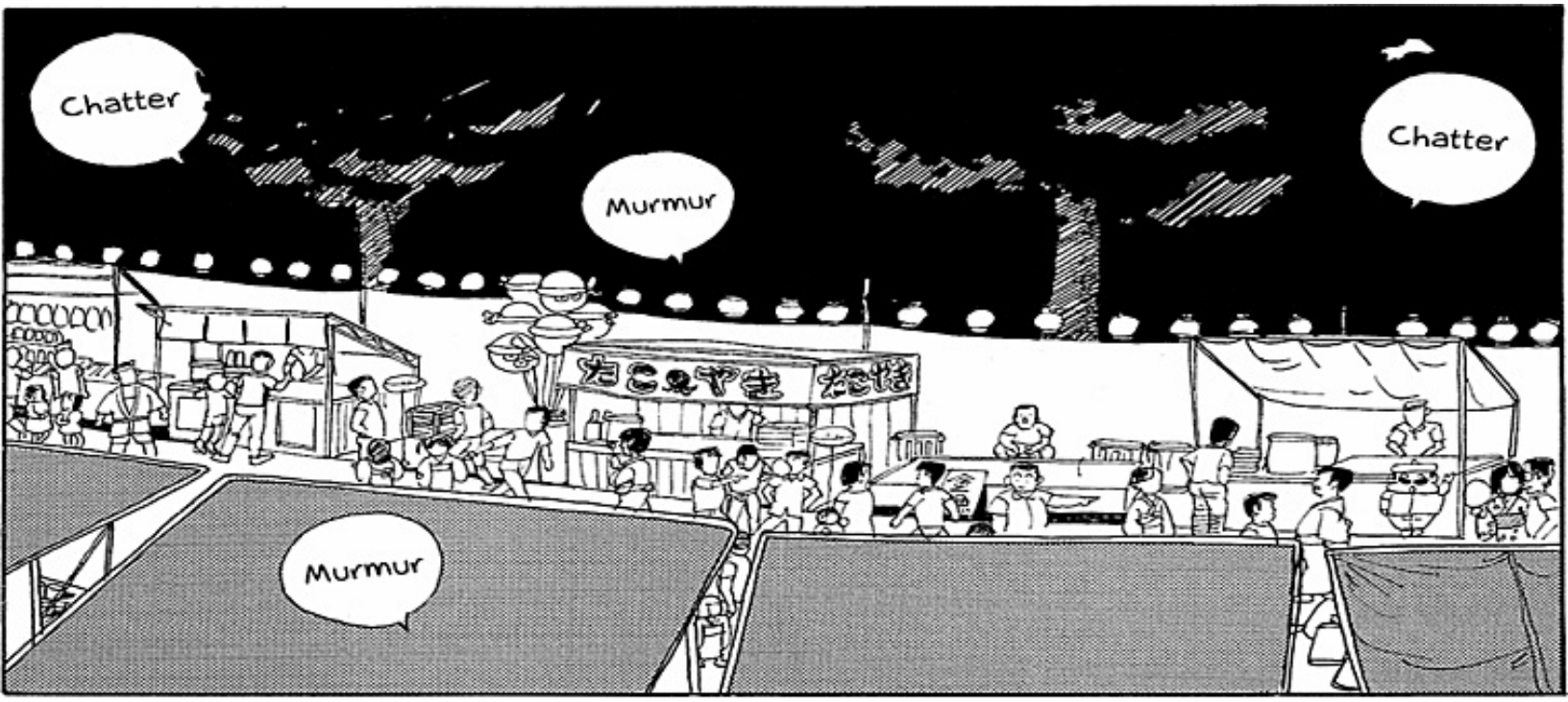
ガ
WELCOME BACK!
FESTIVAL
HEY!
Ozora Group
ガシッ!

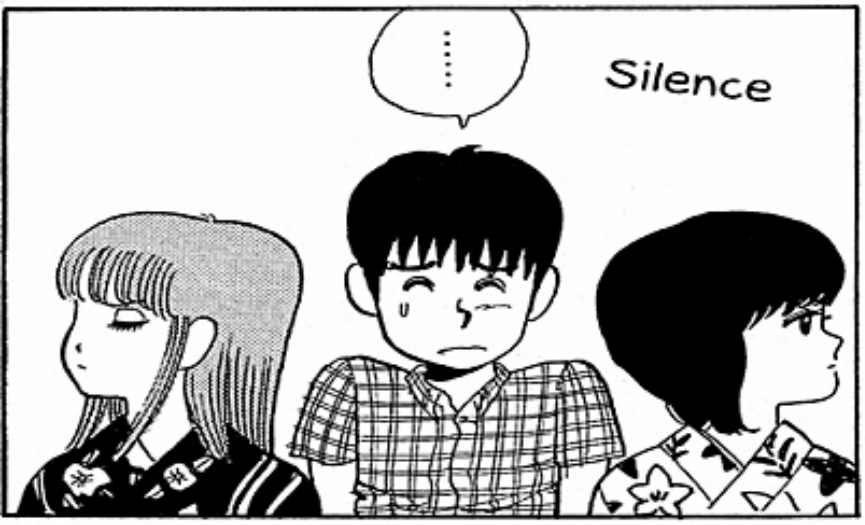
I'M BACK!


My callus!
Hey! The pen I use is a dip pen. You should choose a pen holder that's easy to use!
Gorou Kotobuki's short manga college

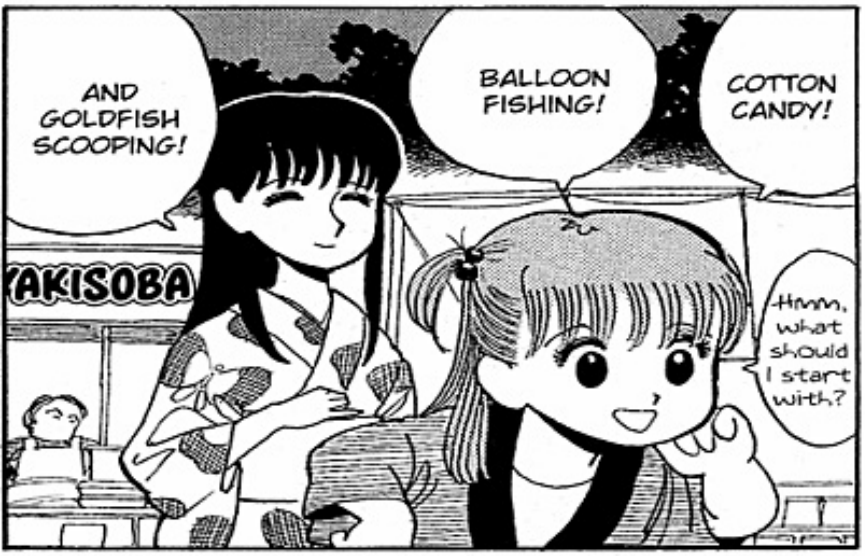

THE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION IS ORGANIZING A FESTIVAL TONIGHT!
WH...WHY ARE YOU DRESSED LIKE THAT?
KOUSAKU-KUN,
YOU DON'T HAVE TO HANG OUT WITH THAT PERVERT.
KOUSAKU! LET'S GO SEE THE FESTIVAL!
Staaaaaa
aaaaare
WHOA! IT'S SO TOUGH BEING POPULAR! JUST KIDDING...


ON THE NIGHT OF THE FESTIVAL!!

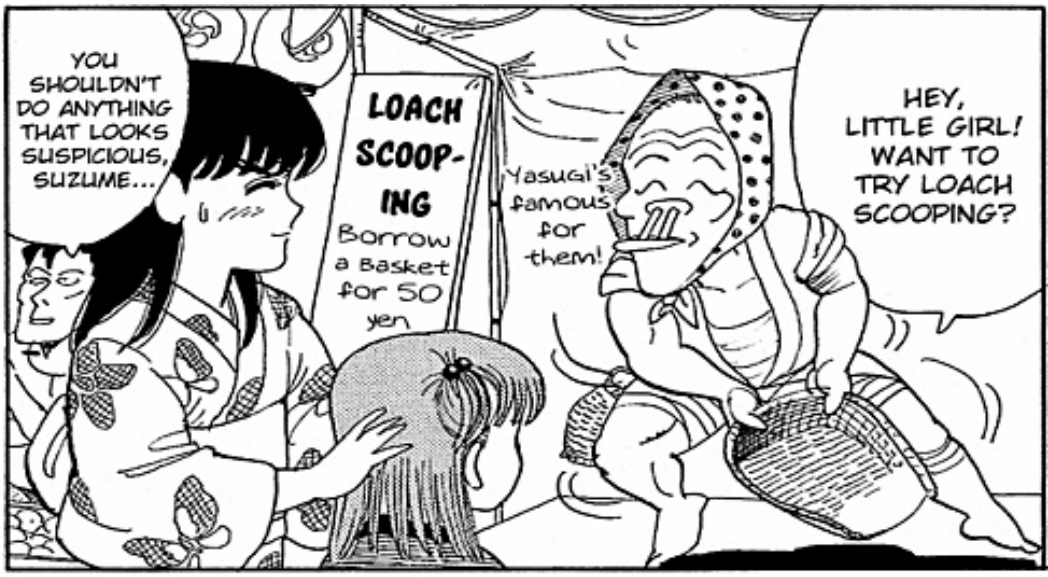

Chatter
Murmur
Chatter
Murmur

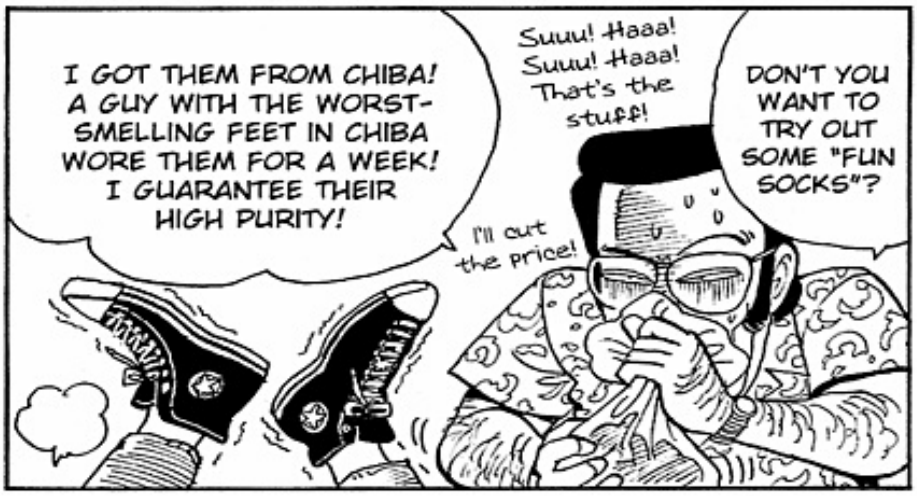

Silence

HURRY UP!
DON'T TRIP, SUZUME!


AND GOLDFISH SCOOPING!
BALLOON FISHING!
COTTON CANDY!
YAKISOBA
Hmm, what should I start with?

HEY, YOUNG MAN. WANNA BUY SOMETHING NICE?

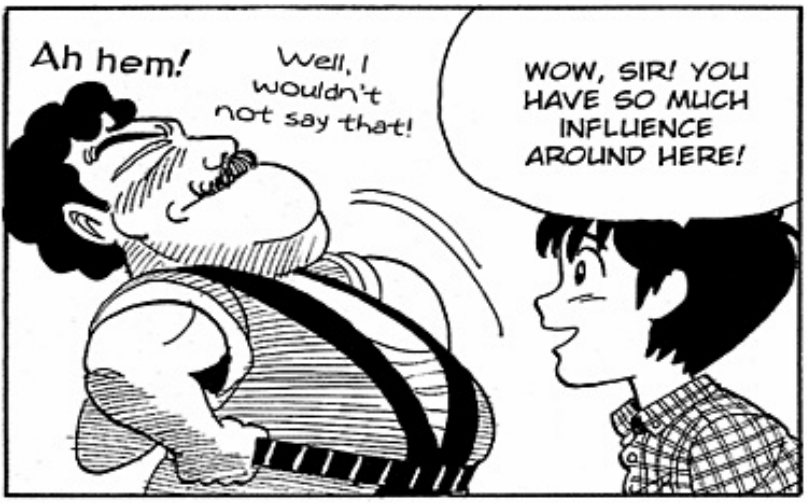

YOU SHOULDN'T DO ANYTHING THAT LOOKS SUSPICIOUS, SUZUME...
LOACH SCOOP-ING
Borrow a Basket for 50 yen
Yasugi's famous for them!
HEY, LITTLE GIRL! WANT TO TRY LOACH SCOOPING?


I GOT THEM FROM CHIBA! A GUY WITH THE WORST-SMELLING FEET IN CHIBA WORE THEM FOR A WEEK! I GUARANTEE THEIR HIGH PURITY!
Suuu! Haaa! Suuu! Haaa! That's the stuff!
I'll cut the price!
DON'T YOU WANT TO TRY OUT SOME "FUN SOCKS"?

SOCKS! THEY'RE A BARGAIN!
Shh! You're too loud!
B...BUY WHAT?

YOU BASTARD! DON'T SELL ANYTHING WEIRD WHERE THE OOZORA GROUP DOES BUSINESS!

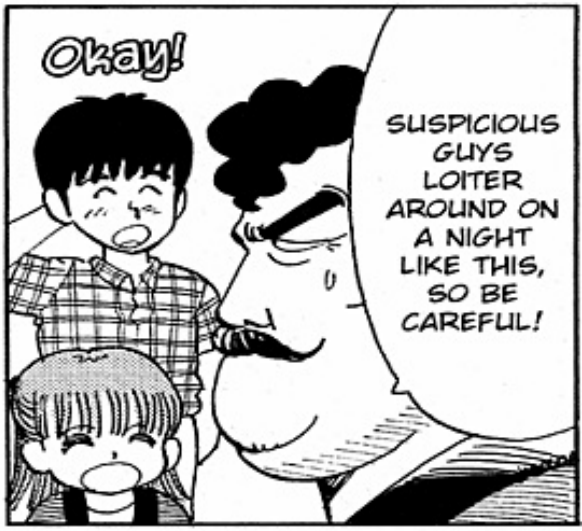
HEEEEEEY!
↑ Eye holes

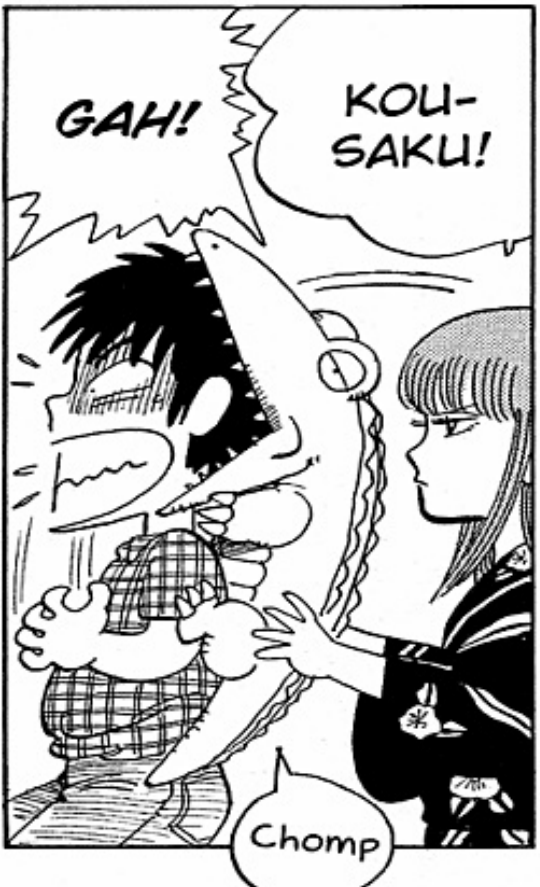

Ah hem!
Well, I wouldn't not say that!
WOW, SIR! YOU HAVE SO MUCH INFLUENCE AROUND HERE!

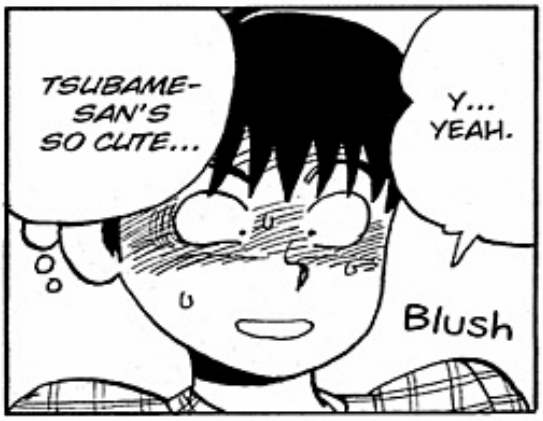
YA
KI
OH! HOW'S IT GOING?
Hi!
AH, BOSS. HI!

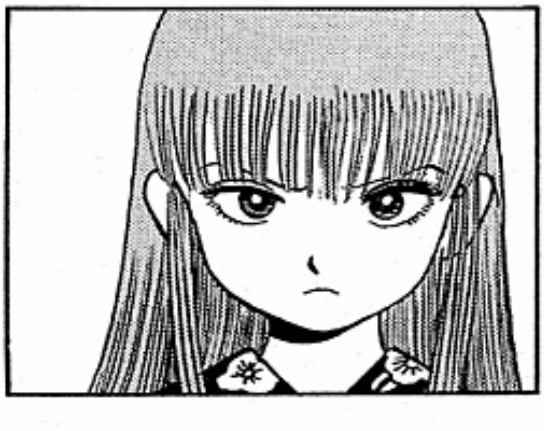
WELL, YOU'RE NOT ALL THAT RELIABLE, THOUGH.
FESTIVAL

LEAVE IT TO ME!
KOUSAKU-KUN, TAKE CARE OF MY DAUGHTERS.


Okay!
SUSPICIOUS GUYS LOITER AROUND ON A NIGHT LIKE THIS, SO BE CAREFUL!

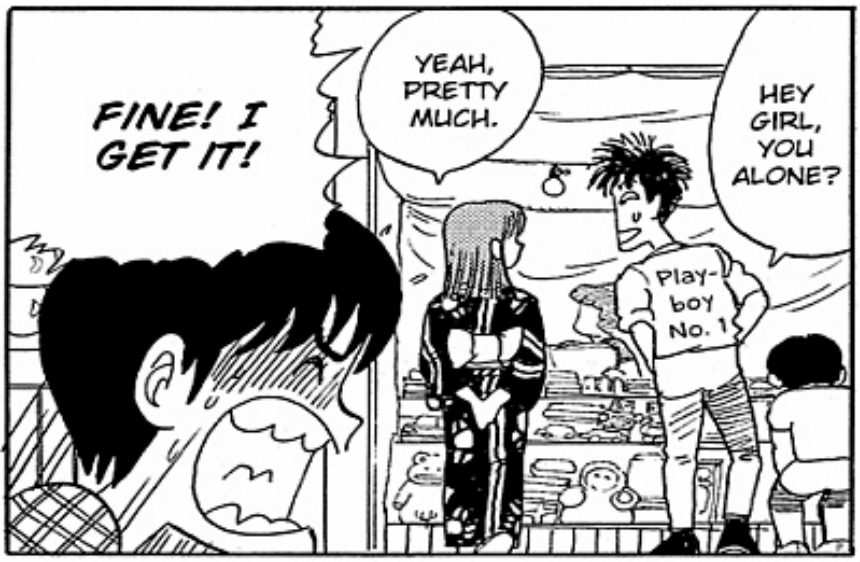

GAH!
KOU-SAKU!
Chomp


TSUBAME-SAN'S SO CUTE...
Y... YEAH.
Blush



EH HEH HEH! THAT'S NOT TRUE AT ALL! RIGHT, KOUSAKU-KUN?

HE DOESN'T WANT TO!! HE'S NOT GONNA HANG AROUND A PERVERT LIKE YOU ANYMORE! RIGHT, KOUSAKU-KUN?
H...HE LOOKS REALLY CUTE... TOO...
HEY, LET'S GO SOMEWHERE ELSE. JUST THE TWO OF US.
HOW STUBBORN CAN YOU GET!?
YOU FORGOT TO BUY ME A SOUVENIR ON PURPOSE, RIGHT?
WHO ARE YOU CALLING MY SISTER?
HOW DARE YOU CALL YOUR CUTE LITTLE SISTER A PERVERT.
STOP IT, YOU GUYS!
GEEEZ! CUT IT OUT, YOU TWO!
You're embarrassing us!
YOU CAN'T STOP THEM! FIRES AND FIGHTS ARE THE FLOWERS OF FESTIVALS.
THIS IS GONNA BE GOOD.
OH! THOSE TWO CUTIES ARE FIGHTING!
FISH


FINE! I GET IT!
YEAH, PRETTY MUCH.
HEY GIRL, YOU ALONE?
Play-boy No. 1

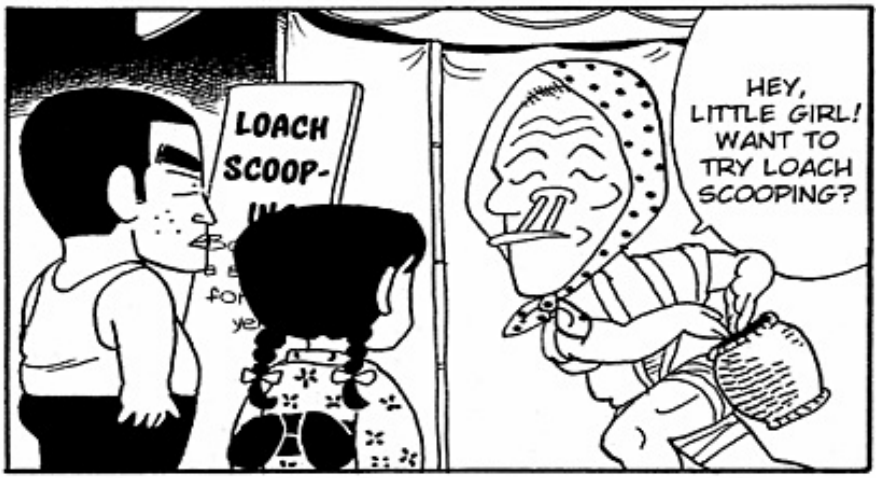
B...BUT YOUR DAD ASKED ME TO LOOK AFTER THEM...
KOUSAKU! ARE YOU GONNA COME WITH ME OR NOT!?

...GEEZ!
WELL, EXCUSE ME FOR A LITTLE BIT.

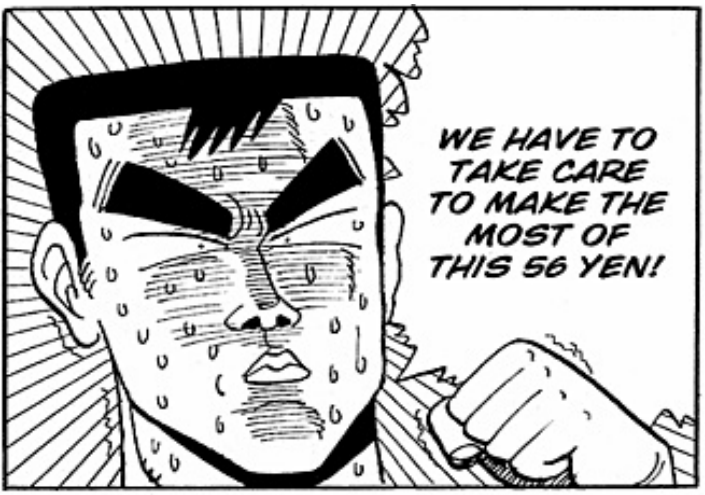
BALLOON FISHING!
COTTON CANDY!
GOLD-FISH SCOOP-ING!
Dr. Slump
Perman

Yaaaaaaay!

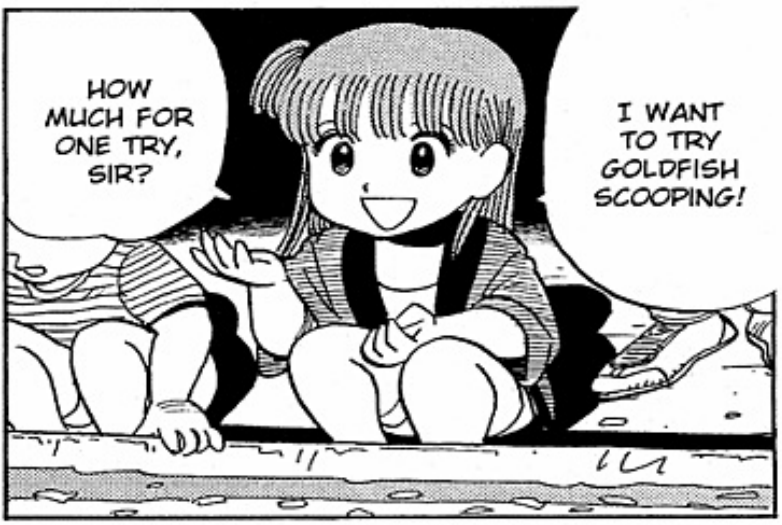
THAT'LL BE 50 YEN.
Wow! You're so Bold!
I...I GUESS I'LL GIVE IT A SHOT.

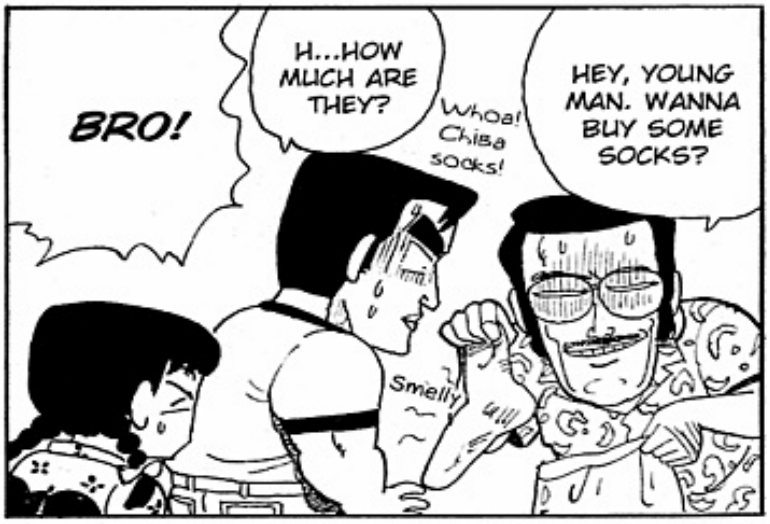

LOACH SCOOP-
HEY, LITTLE GIRL! WANT TO TRY LOACH SCOOPING?

ALL RIGHT! THANKS FOR TRYING!
Wahahahahaha!
YEP, THAT'S IT.
UM...ALL I GET TO DO IS DANCE AROUND?
DIDN'T YOUR BIG BROTHER TELL YOU OVER AND OVER AGAIN NOT TO WASTE YOUR MONEY ON JUST GOOFING OFF! WE ONLY HAVE A LITTLE MONEY LEFT!
ぎりり
YOU'RE SUCH A MORON, MITSU-AKI!

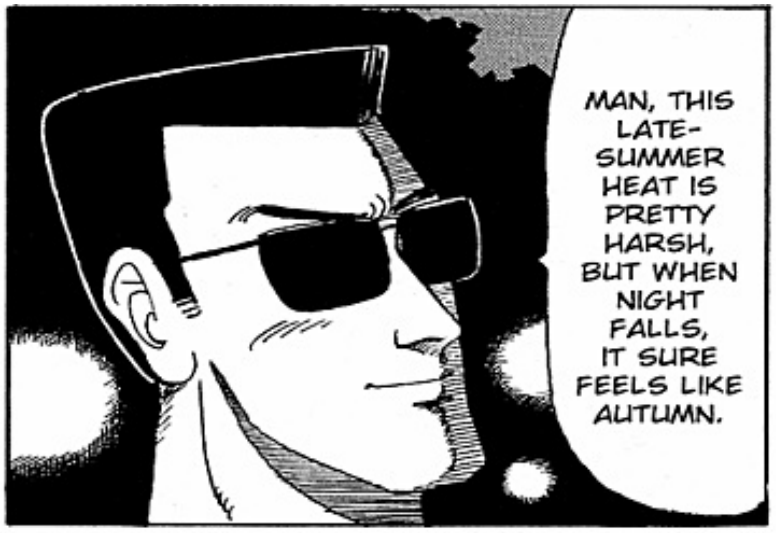


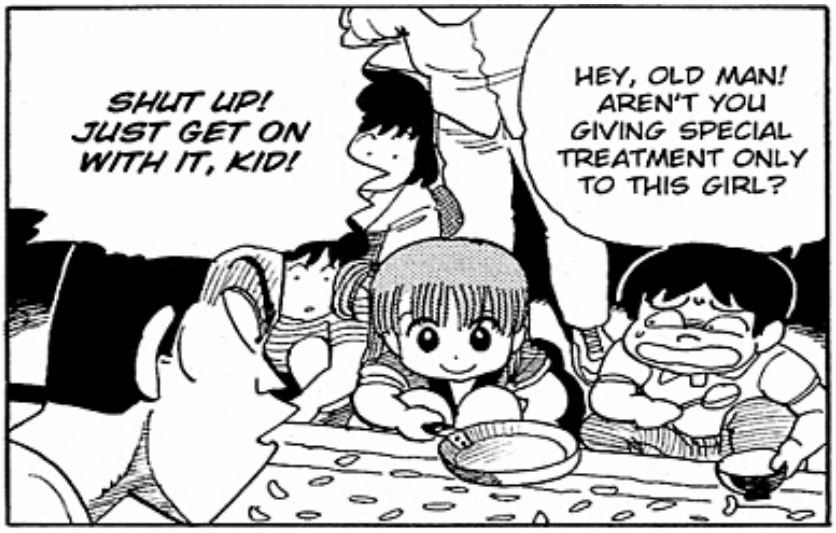
Ugh...He's so sweltering.

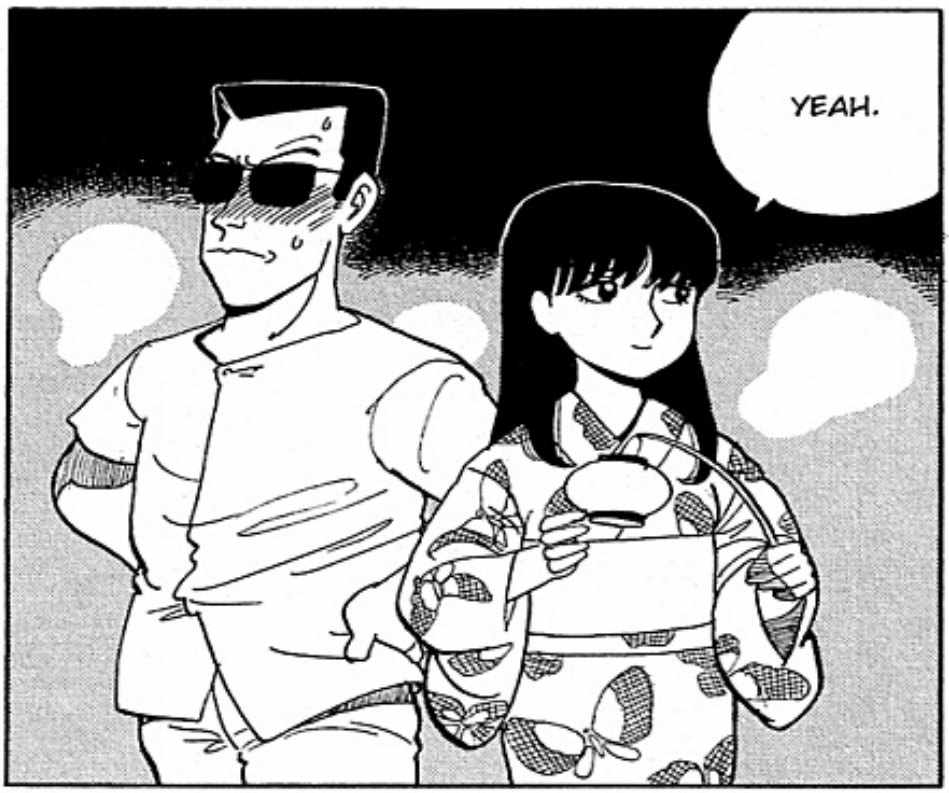




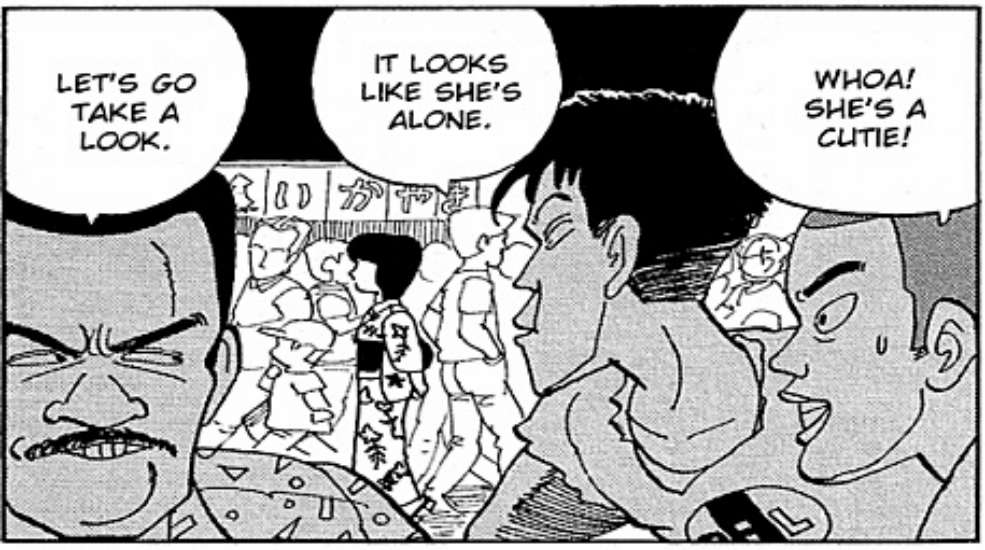
Uwhooa!
SEIJI'S WORKING HARD AT HIS STALL, TOO.
FACE OFF AGAINST THE GIANT'S FACE
30 yen per try
Waaaa



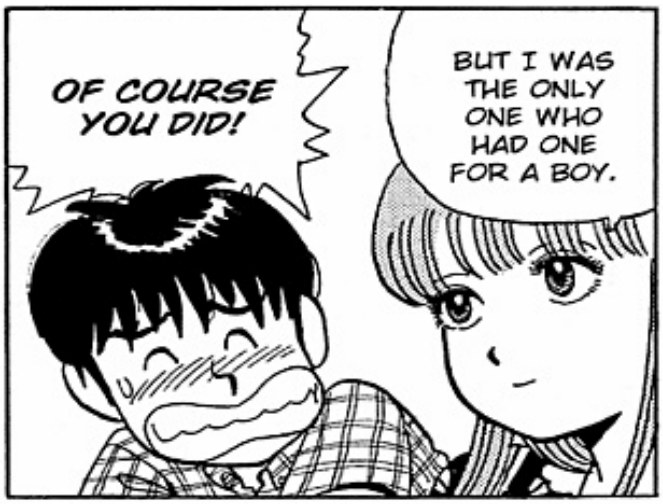


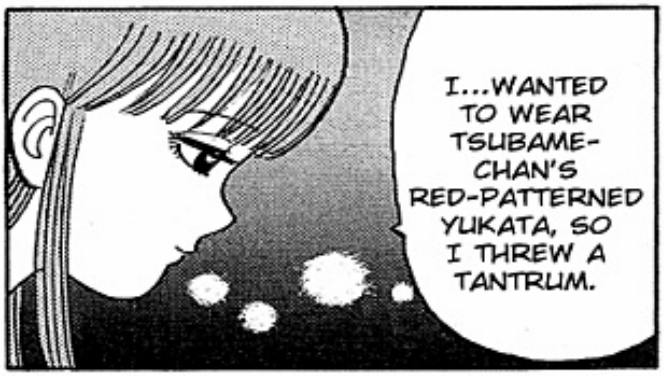


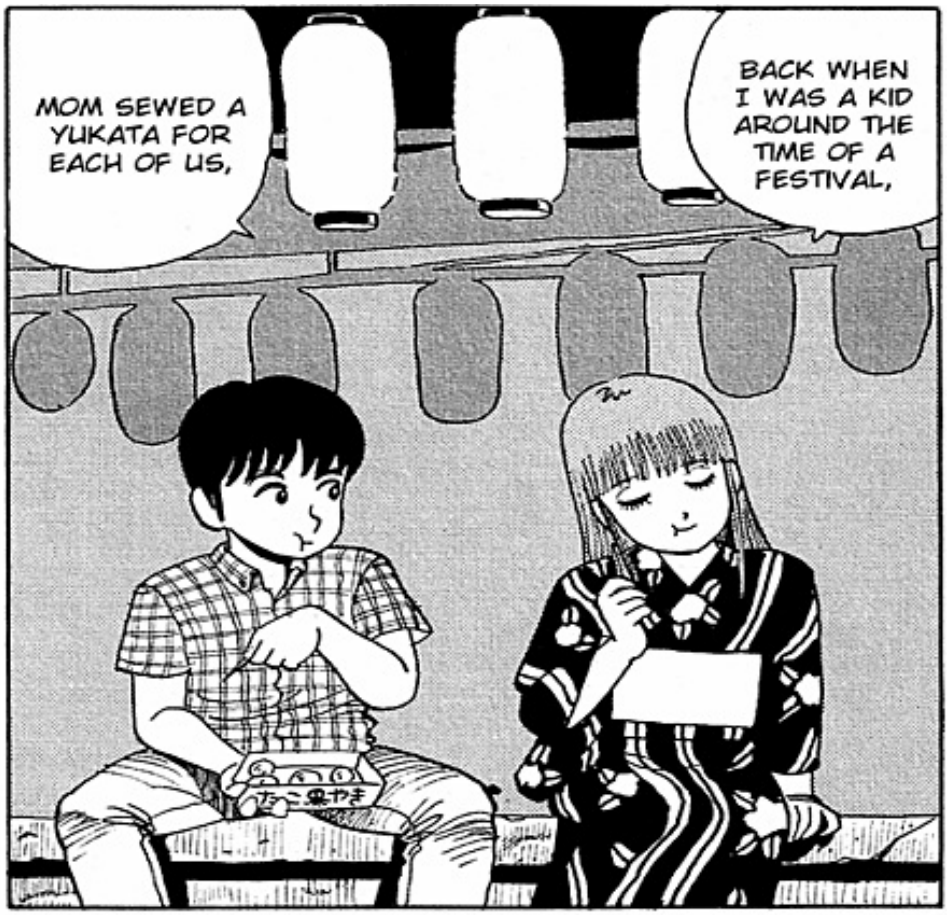
Sub-chan's flustered.



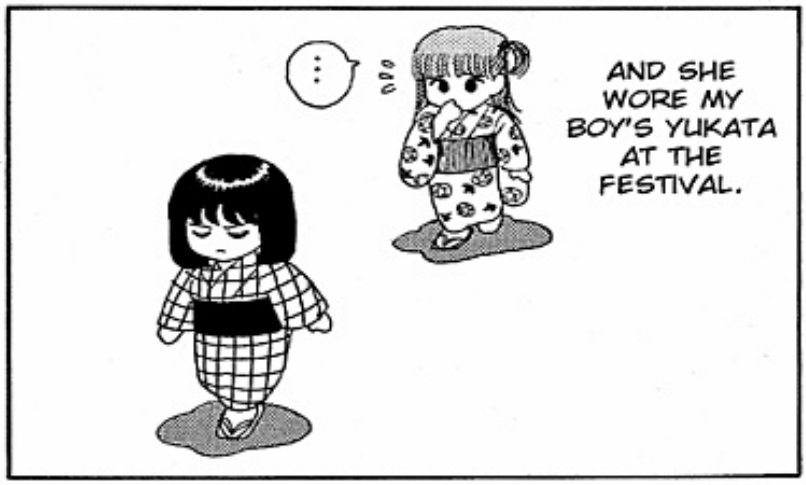
This face...

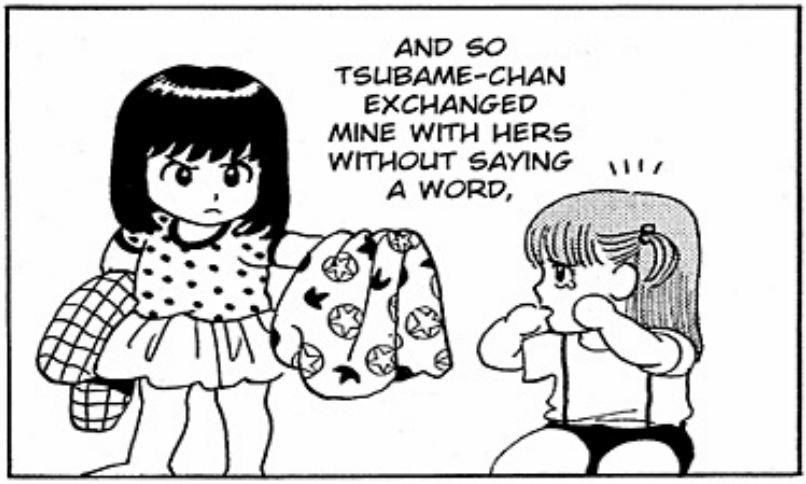




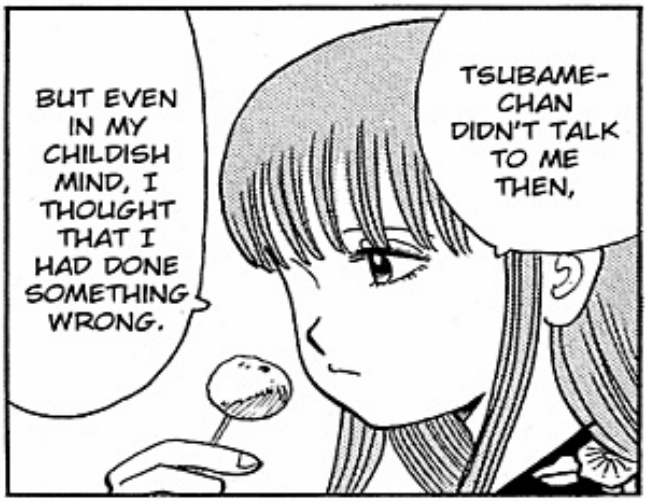


Uh huh, so you already had those interests by that time?



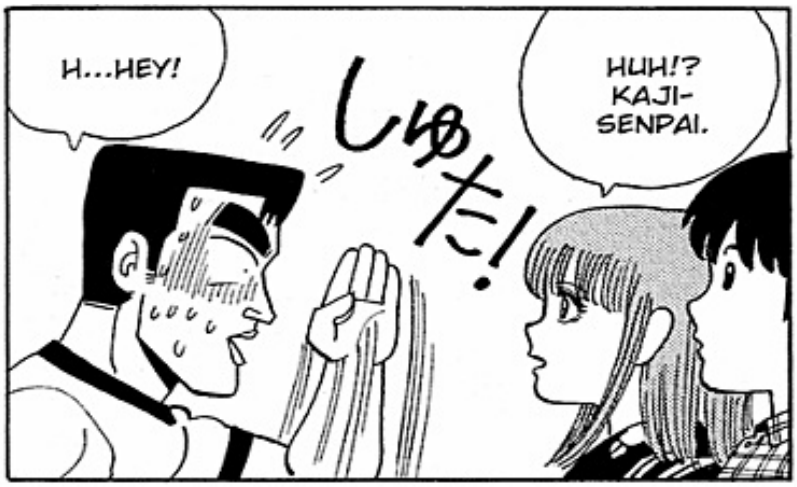


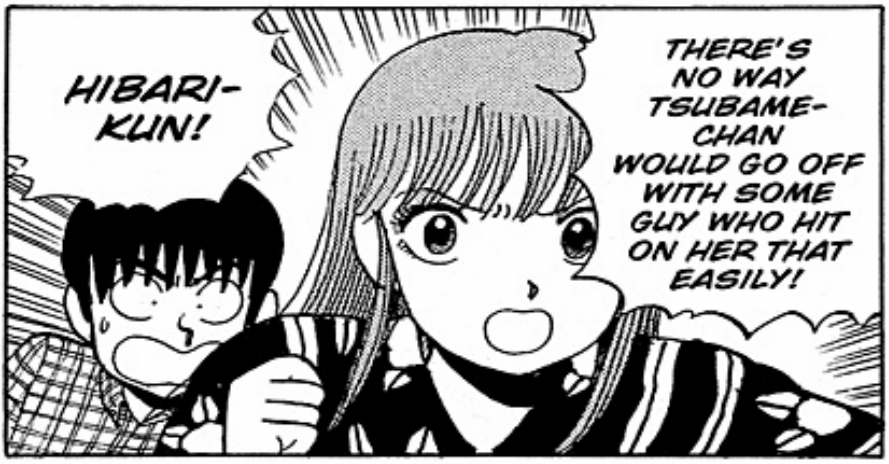
Whoa! Hibari looks just like Suzume-chan!

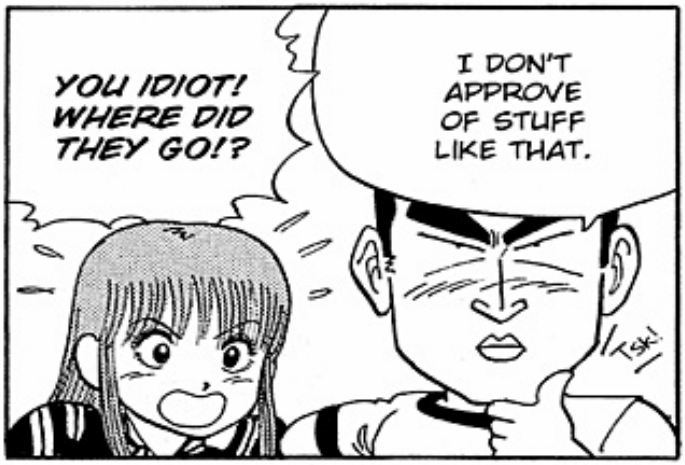


WOW! WHAT A COINCIDENCE! ARE YOU BY YOURSELF!?
がくがくがく
Gaaah! I JUST HAD TO RUN INTO THIS CREEP...
しゅたっ!!
OH! HEY, TSUBAME-KUN!
Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha...
Stop
Don't tease an adult!
Way to go!
Oh, wow! Isn't she this to you, Bro?
I want a mask!
I want some cotton candy!
Ehhh!? Why!?
Come on, let's go home! We shouldn't be bothering Tsubame-kun!
しゅたっ!!
WELL, SEE YA LATER!!
LET'S HAVE A LITTLE FUN!
HEY, GIRL.

SOME REALLY CRUDE GUYS JUST HIT ON HER AND THEN SHE WENT OFF WITH THEM.
ALTHOUGH SHE DOESN'T LOOK IT, TSUBAME-KUN'S QUITE THE DELINQUENT, HUH?
Eh!?

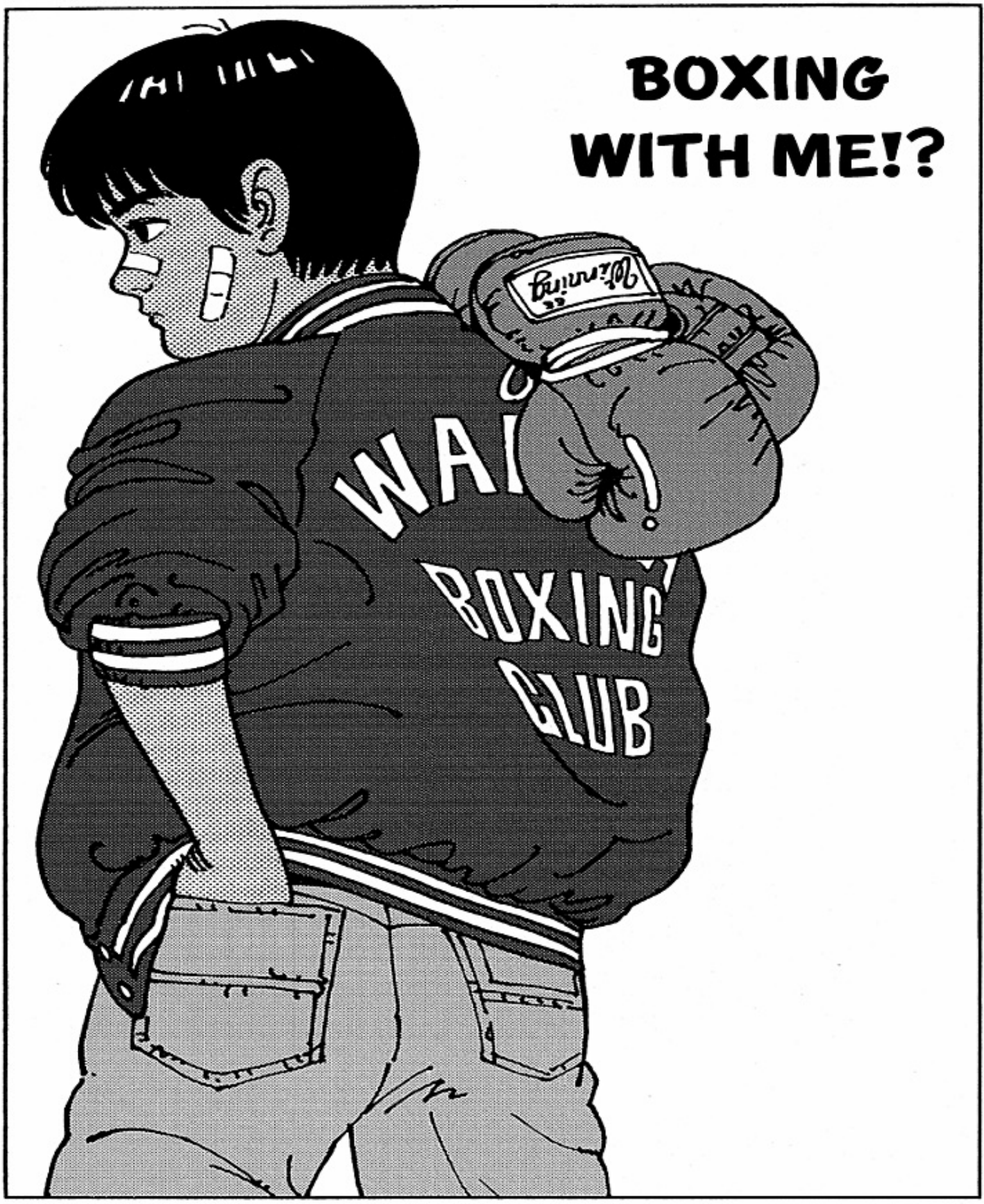




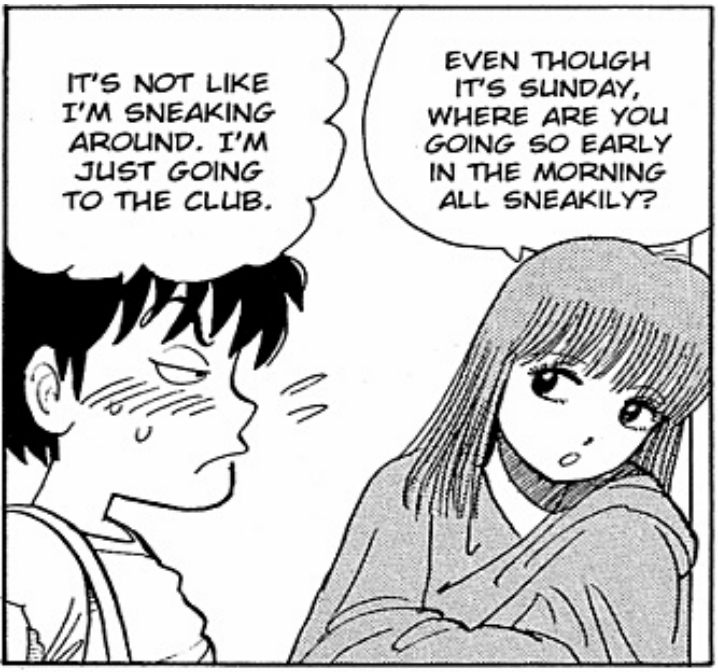


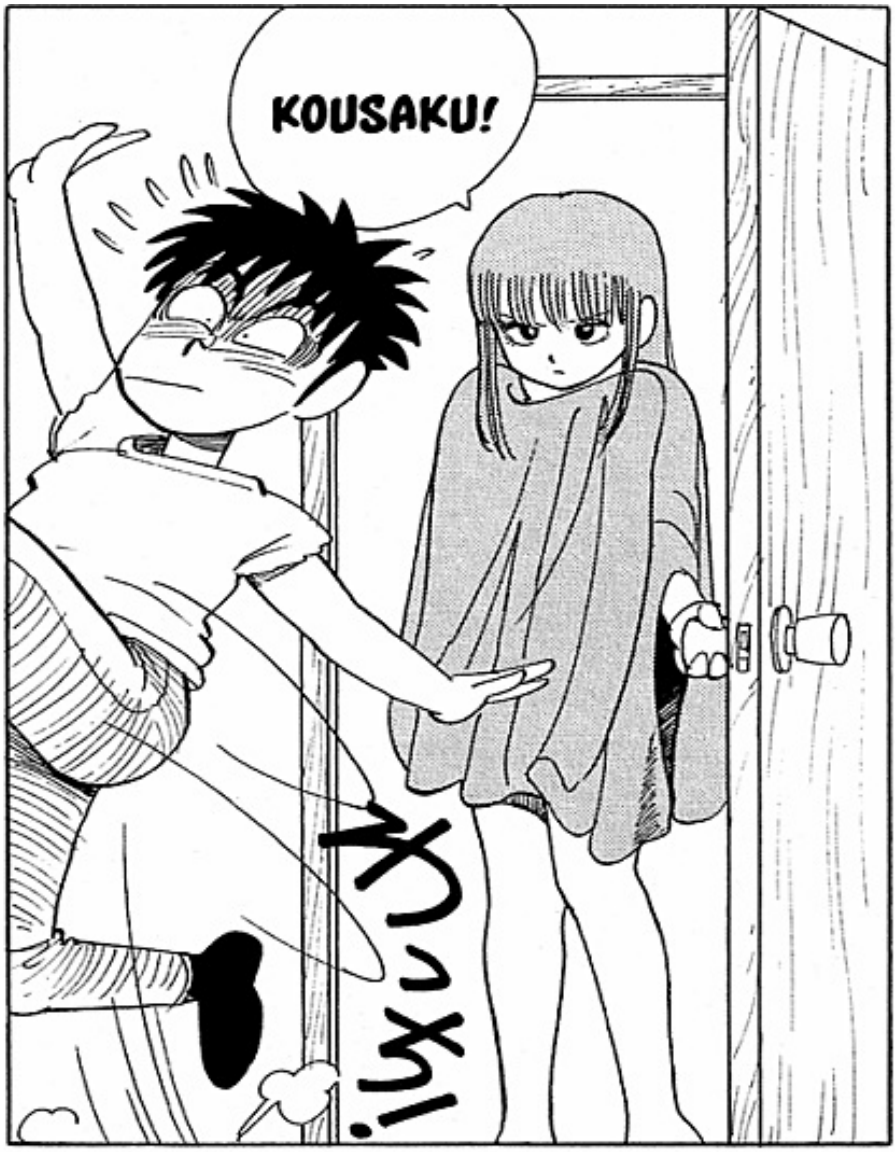
I...I can't stand guys like this!

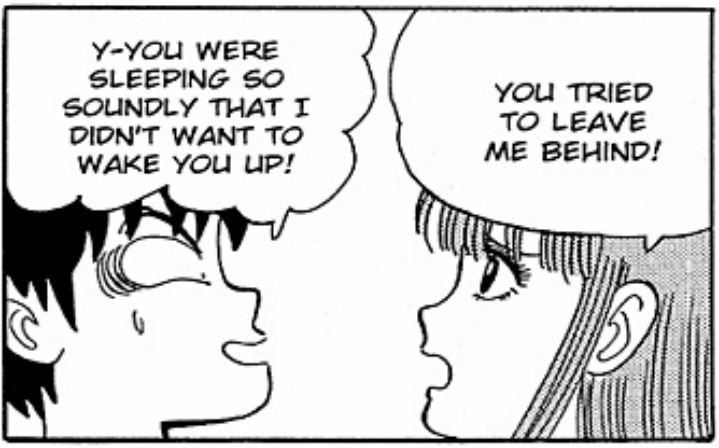
E-EXCUSE US!
WHOA! SH...SHE'S THAT BITCH FROM THE OTHER DAY!
YOU WON'T GET AWAY WITH IT!
IF YOU DO ANYTHING WEIRD TO MY SISTER,
OHH! THERE, THERE.
WAAAA !! HIBARI !!
ガチョーン
BUT I'M NOT HANDING OVER KOUSAKU! UNDERSTAND, TSU-BA-ME-CHAN?
HUH? WHEN DID THEY MAKE UP?
Kya! Kya! Yeah! Right? Geez! Stop it!
I'M AN ONLY CHILD, SO I WAS A LITTLE JEALOUS.
IS THIS WHAT SIBLINGS ARE LIKE...?


BOXING
WITH ME!?
BOXING
CLUB

Creak
Fuu...
ガクッ
そろおり
Quietly...
I HAVE TO MAKE SURE NOT TO WAKE HIM UP...
HE'S SUCH A PER-VERT!
SHE-ESH!
Softly...
Shut


IT'S NOT LIKE I'M SNEAKING AROUND. I'M JUST GOING TO THE CLUB.
EVEN THOUGH IT'S SUNDAY, WHERE ARE YOU GOING SO EARLY IN THE MORNING ALL SNEAKILY?

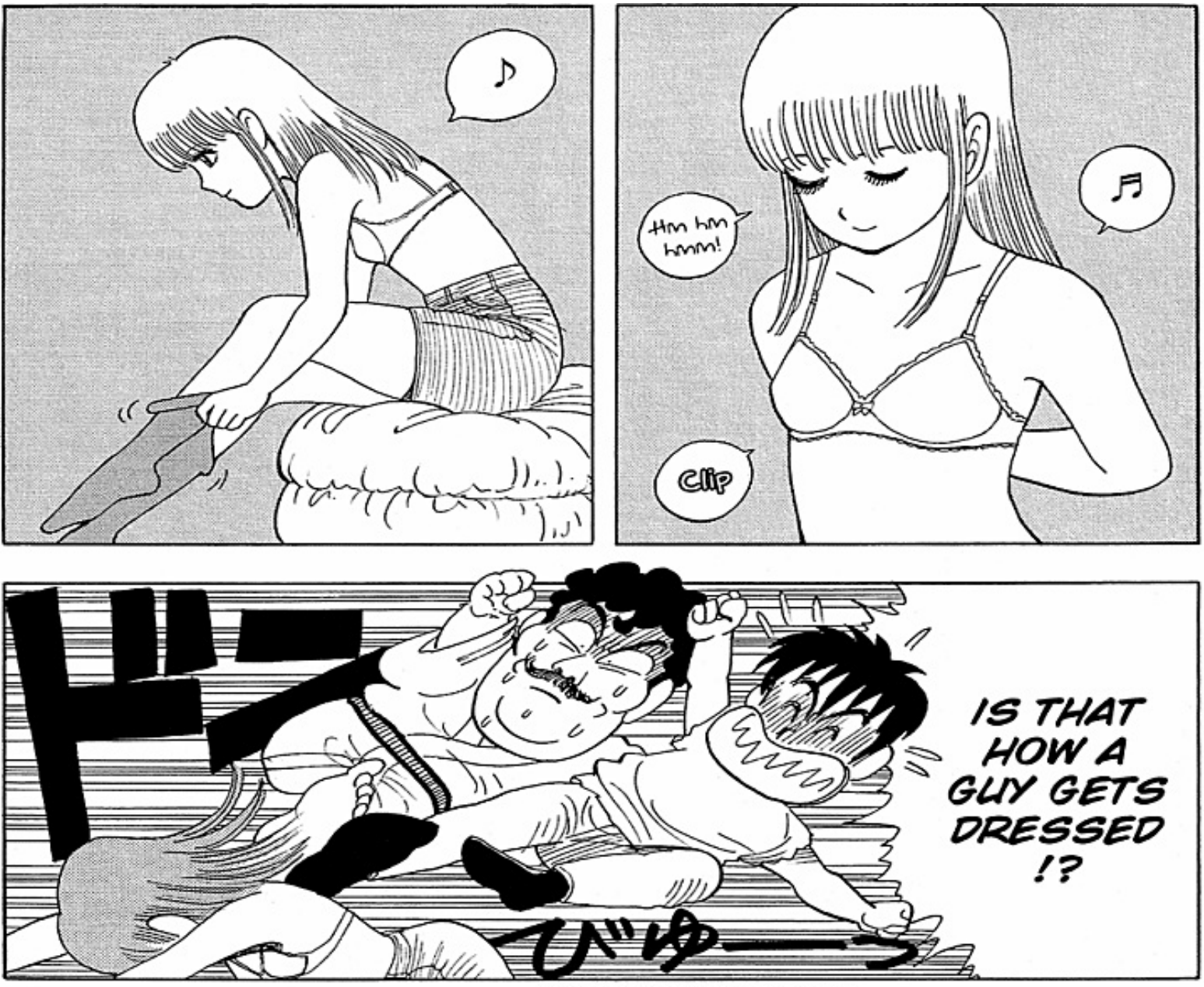

KOUSAKU!
ガシッ


Y-YOU WERE SLEEPING SO SOUNDLY THAT I DIDN'T WANT TO WAKE YOU UP!
YOU TRIED TO LEAVE ME BEHIND!

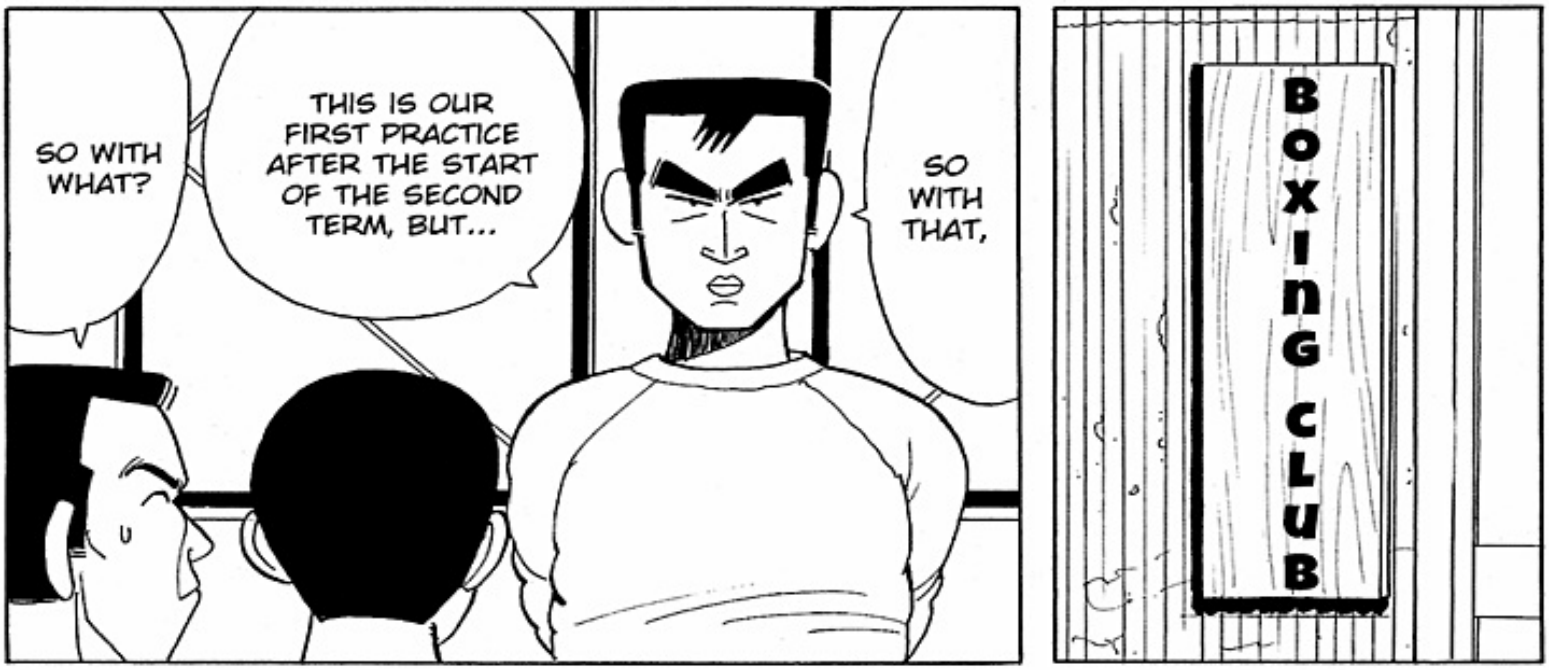
WHO THE HELL WOULD PEEK AT YOU!?
AND DON'T PEEK!

...JUST MAKE IT QUICK.
THEN I'LL GO WITH YOU. WAIT FOR ME WHILE I GET DRESSED.

I'M MORE OR LESS THE MANAGER, YOU KNOW!!
OH YEAH! SO TODAY'S A PRACTICE DAY!



He ended up peeking in the end.



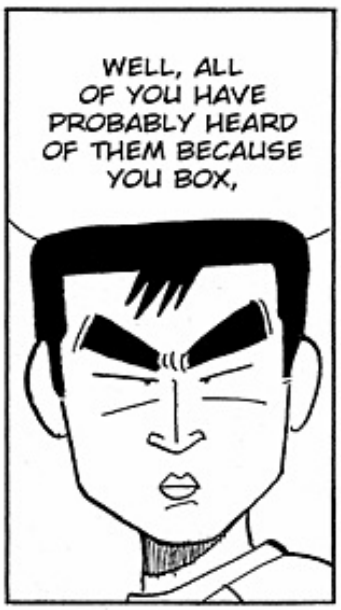
CLENCH YOUR TEETH!
Ha ha ha!
Is Kaji-senpai going to quit being our coach?
I HAVE GOOD NEWS FOR ALL OF YOU TODAY.
OHHH!
HAS BEEN CHALL-ENGED TO SOME INTER-SCHOOL MATCH-ES!!
INCREDIBLY, OUR BOXING CLUB...
Tsk!
Why would me quitting as your coach be good news!?
S...SO THIS CLUB'S NEVER HAD A MATCH BEFORE!?
What kind of club is this!?
There, there, Kousaku.
Uh
THAT'S RIGHT, SAKAMOTO!
THIS IS THE FIRST EVENT THAT HAS HAPPENED TO THIS CLUB SINCE IT WAS FOUNDED! IT'S OUR FIRST SET OF MATCHES!
てえっ!!

You're just too sweltering!

TAKE HIM TO THE INFIRMARY BEFORE HE GETS WORSE.
Matches! Heh heh heh heh! B...Blood! The smell of blood in the club! Heh heh heh heh!

Uweh heh heh heh heh! M...Matches!? Who's our opponent? Jose Mendoza? I'll come out on top! Joooce!

What !!?
BUT IT'S KOKURYUU HIGH SCHOOL!
Really!?
Huh !?


WELL, ALL OF YOU HAVE PROBABLY HEARD OF THEM BECAUSE YOU BOX,

How good are they?
SO WHAT SCHOOL ARE WE FIGHTING, KAJI-SENPAI?

YEAH! AND BACK THEN!!
KEH KEH KEH! LET'S TAKE OUR TIME AND ENJOY OURSELVES, GIRL.
WA!
THOSE GUYS FROM BACK THEN...

KOKURYUU HIGH!?

HURRY UP AND TAKE HIM TO A HOSPITAL THAT HAS IRON BARS.
Come on, Coach!
Hibari! My dream!
HIBARI, COME OVER TO ME!
KOU-SAKU!
KYAAA!!
UWEH HEH HEH HEH! YOU'RE GONNA BE IN THE RING! UWEH HEH HEH HEH! C...COME ON, MISS!
L...Let's take on the W-world together! Jooooe!
You're the strongest one here!
WHAT'S UP? WE'RE THE COMEDIC TRIO! KEH KEH KEH!
WHAT ARE THE GUYS OVER HERE UP TO...?
HEY, HOW'S IT GOING SINCE THE OTHER DAY...?
AH!
WHOA! THEY'RE HERE!

AHHH!
しゅた!!
SPORTS
WELL, I'M BUSY WITH STUFF AT COLLEGE, SO I'LL SEE YOU LATER!
どーて

Come on! Don't say that! This is just a small token of my appreciation. Really!
OH! THAT'S OKAY! YOU DON'T HAVE TO THANK ME.

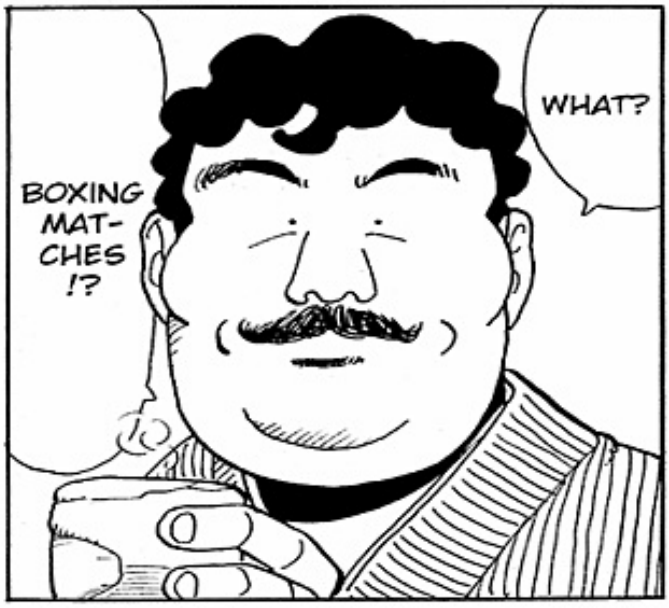
HAS BEEN HELPING OUT AT THIS PLACE...
IT LOOKS LIKE THAT GIRL

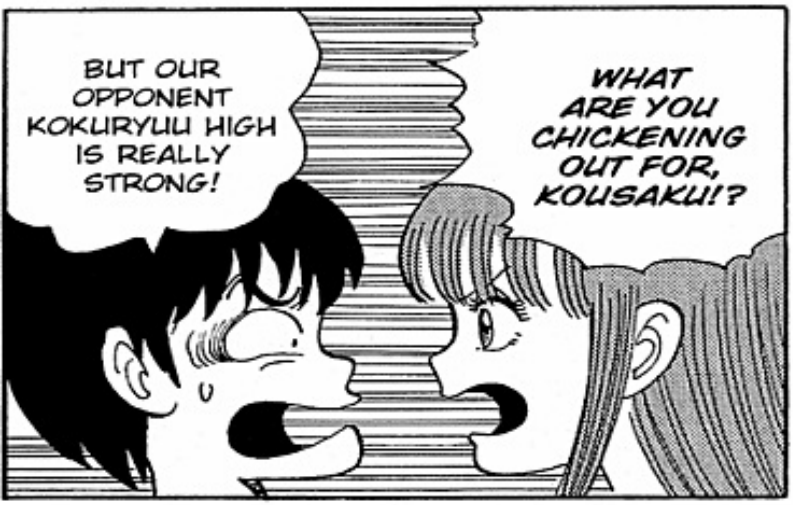
OWWW!
G-GET REAL, YOU BITCH!
Shake
Shake

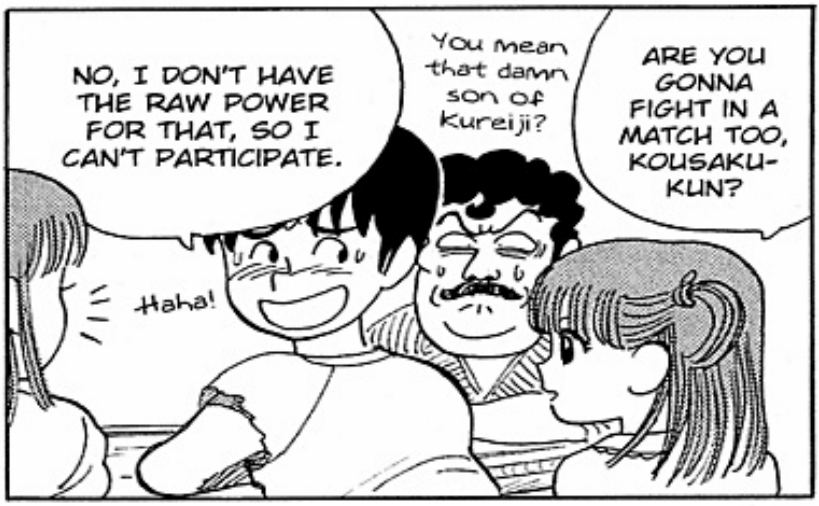
EVEN AT A WEAK SCHOOL, THERE WAS BOUND TO BE AT LEAST ONE PERSON LIKE THIS.
だだだだ
YOU BASTARD! WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING TO HIBARI!!?

V...VIOLENCE ISN'T GOOD. W...WE'RE SPORTSMEN, YOU KNOW?
AH!
C...CAPTAIN.
HI-HI-HI-HIBARI-CHAN, IT...IT'S BEEN A WHILE! IT'S ME, YAKKUN! I'M SO HAPPY TO SEE YOU AGAIN!
EVEN THOUGH I'M 29, I WAS IN H-H-H-HIGH SCHOOL! I...I LOVE TO LEARN NEW THINGS!
でぇっ!
Ya
Ya
Yak... kun!
This is Kousaku.
This is Hibari-chan.
It's Yakkun! Yakkun showed up!
Ugaaaah!

PFFT!
YEAH!! AND THE CAPTAIN OF THE SCHOOL WE'RE FIGHTING IS THAT GUY YAKKUN!
Give me a break


WHAT?
BOXING MAT-CHES !?


BUT OUR OPPONENT KOKURYUU HIGH IS REALLY STRONG!
WHAT ARE YOU CHICKENING OUT FOR, KOUSAKU!?


NO, I DON'T HAVE THE RAW POWER FOR THAT, SO I CAN'T PARTICIPATE.
You mean that damn son of Kureiji?
ARE YOU GONNA FIGHT IN A MATCH TOO, KOUSAKU-KUN?
Haha!

NO,

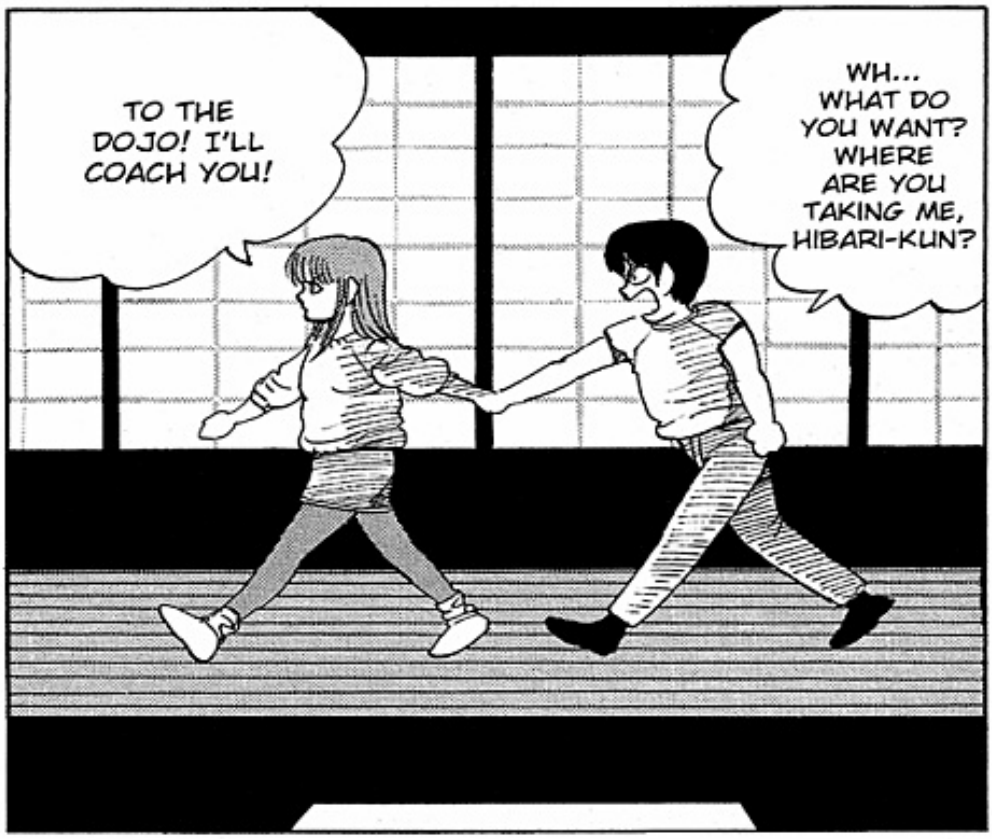
AND IF YOU WERE TO GET HURT, IT'D ALL BE FOR NOTHING.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO FORCE YOURSELF TO DO IT,

WHO ARE YOU CALLING YOUR BOYFRIEND!?
YOU'RE PITIFUL! CAN YOU STILL CALL YOURSELF MY BOYFRIEND?
BAM

OHH! GOOD IDEA!
WANT US TO HELP YOU TRAIN, KOUSAKU-SAN?

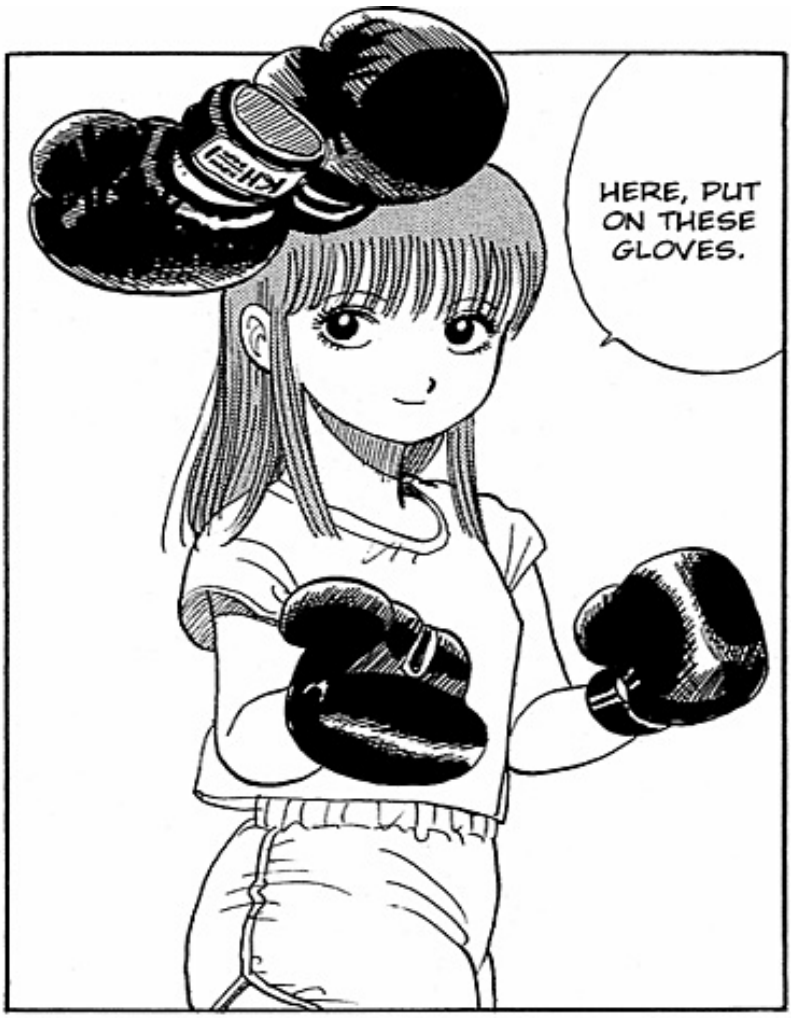
RIGHT, KOU-SAKU-KUN?
EVEN IF YOU KNOW IT'S USELESS, A MAN HAS TO DO WHAT HE HAS TO DO,

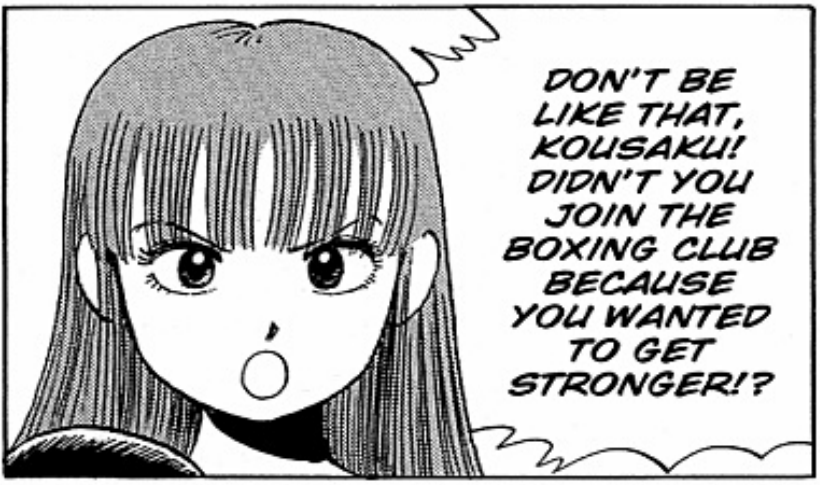
のそ～
I...I'LL PASS...
IF YOU BEAT THE HELL OUT OF FOUR OR FIVE OF OUR STURDY GUYS, IT'LL STEEL YOUR NERVES.

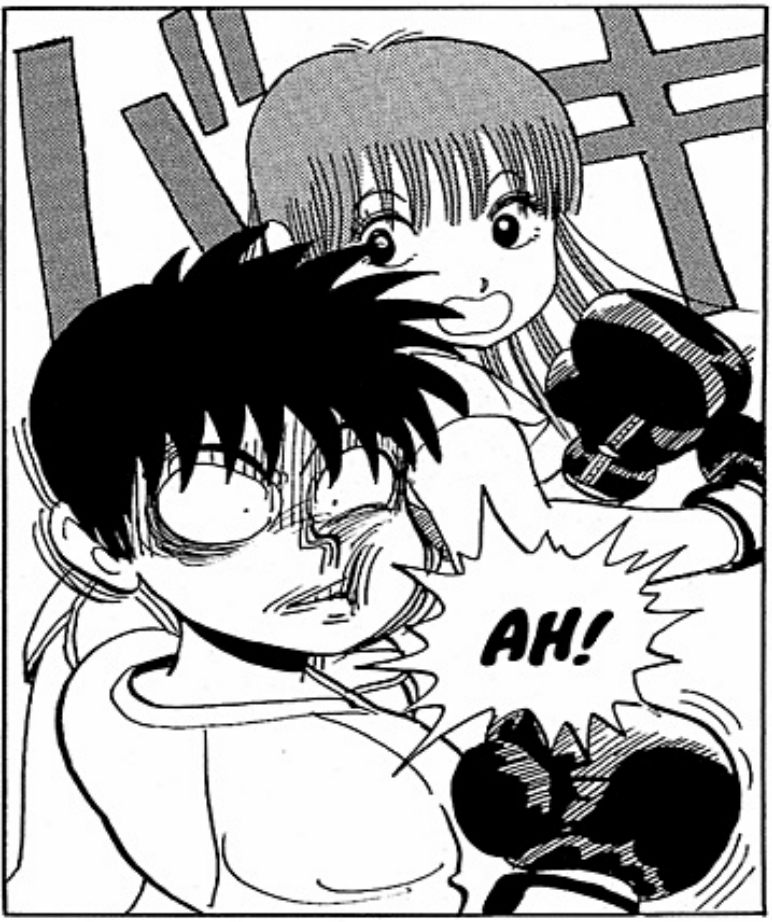

TO THE DOJO! I'LL COACH YOU!
WH... WHAT DO YOU WANT? WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME, HIBARI-KUN?

COME WITH ME, KOUSAKU!

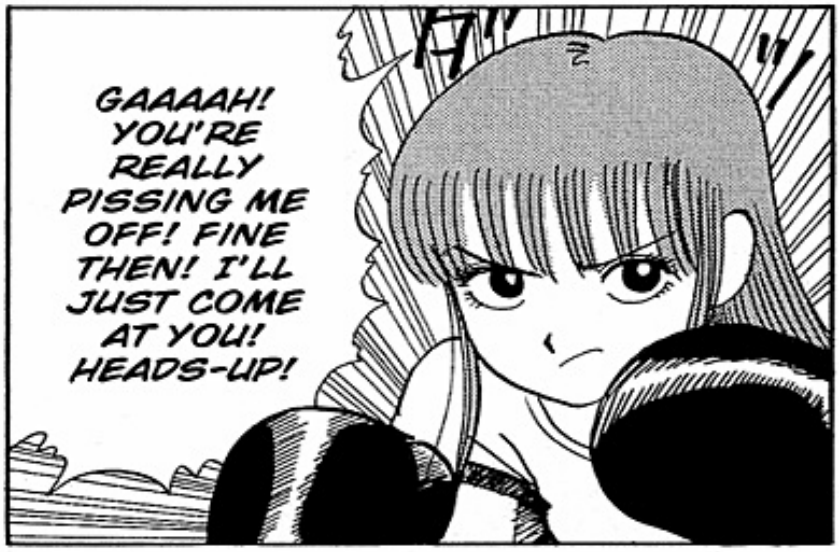
I'M GOOD... ALTHOUGH I KNOW THAT YOU'RE STRONG, HIBARI-KUN.

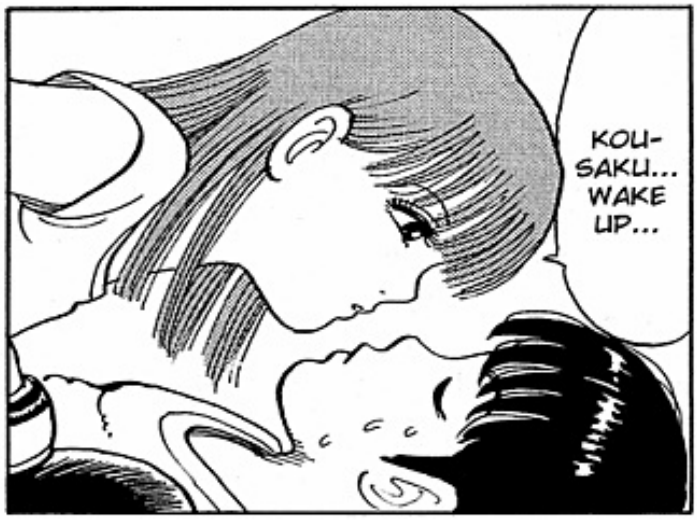

HERE, PUT ON THESE GLOVES.

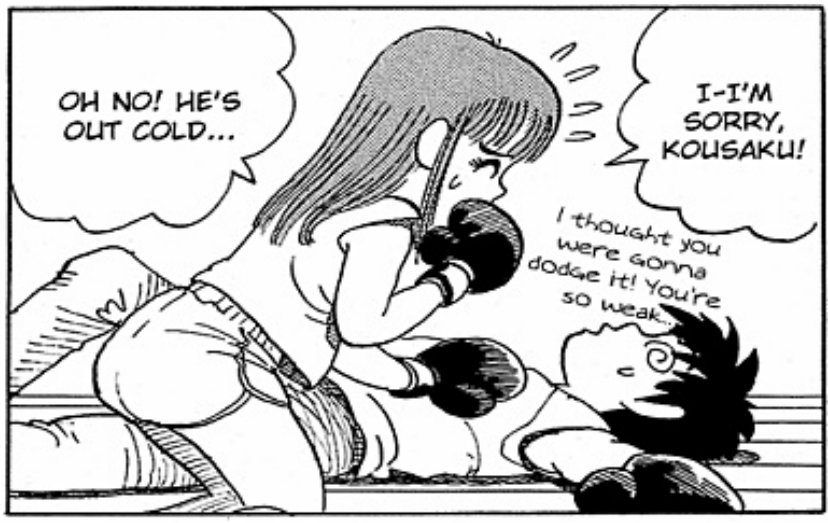

DON'T BE LIKE THAT, KOUSAKU! DIDN'T YOU JOIN THE BOXING CLUB BECAUSE YOU WANTED TO GET STRONGER!?


AH!

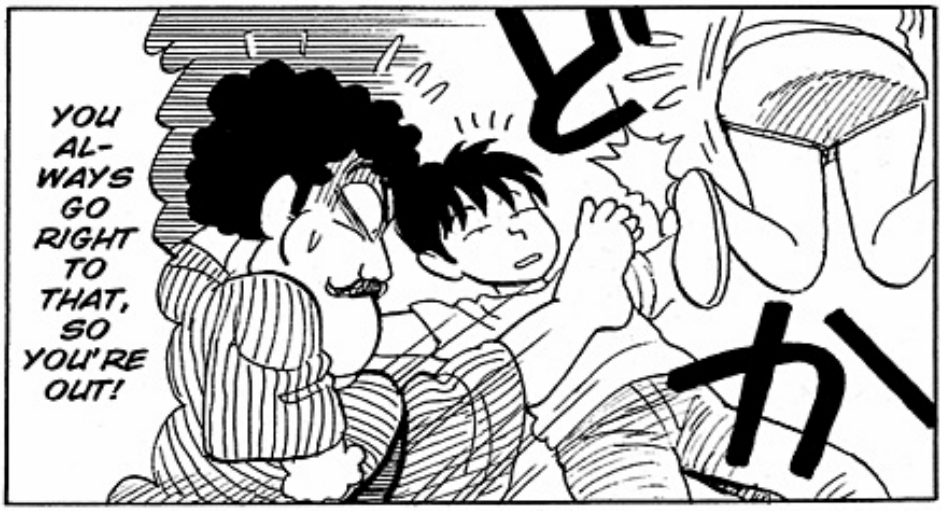
I JUST DON'T WANT TO BE TAUGHT BY YOU!

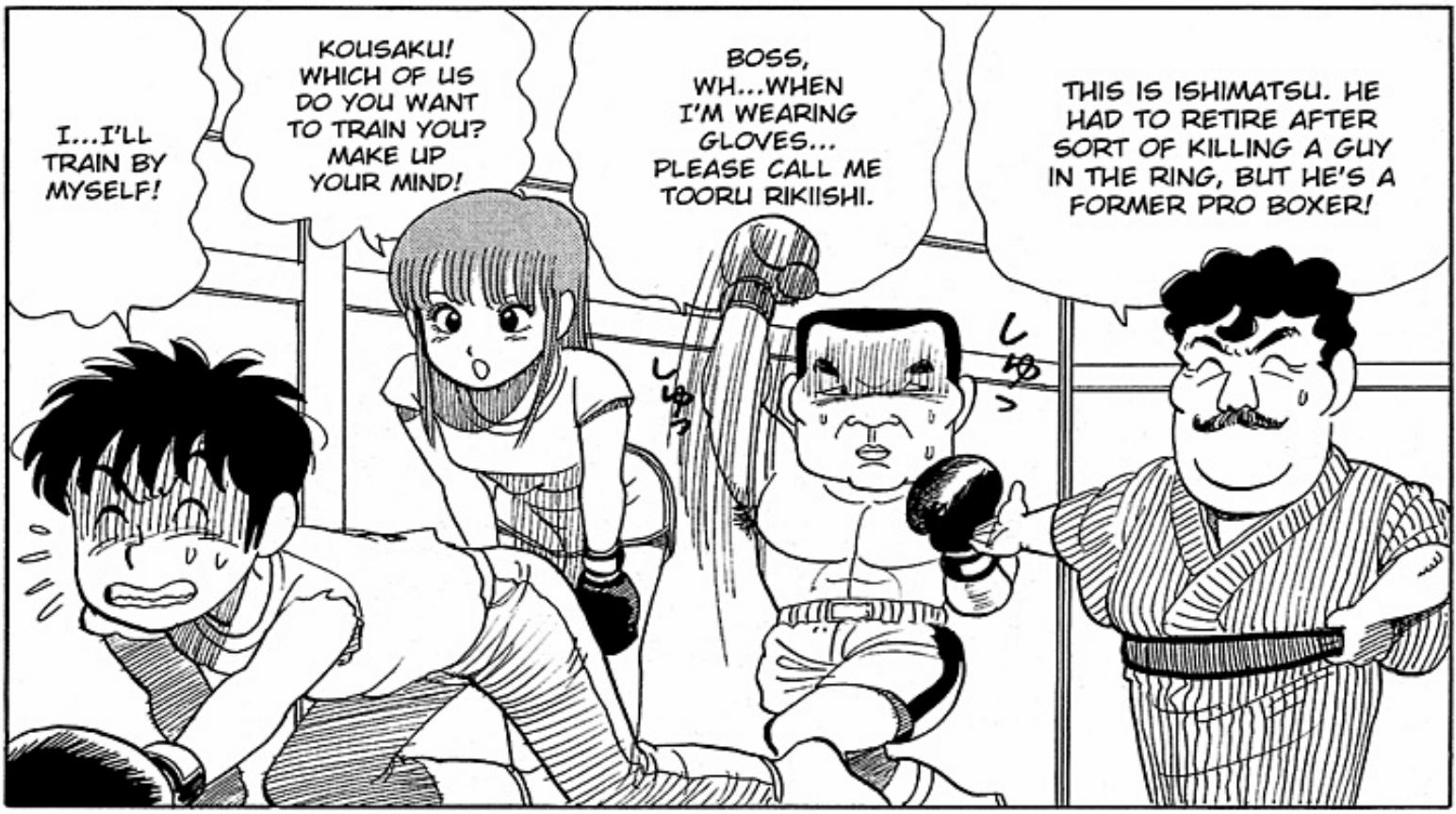

GAAAAH! YOU'RE REALLY PISSING ME OFF! FINE THEN! I'LL JUST COME AT YOU! HEADS-UP!

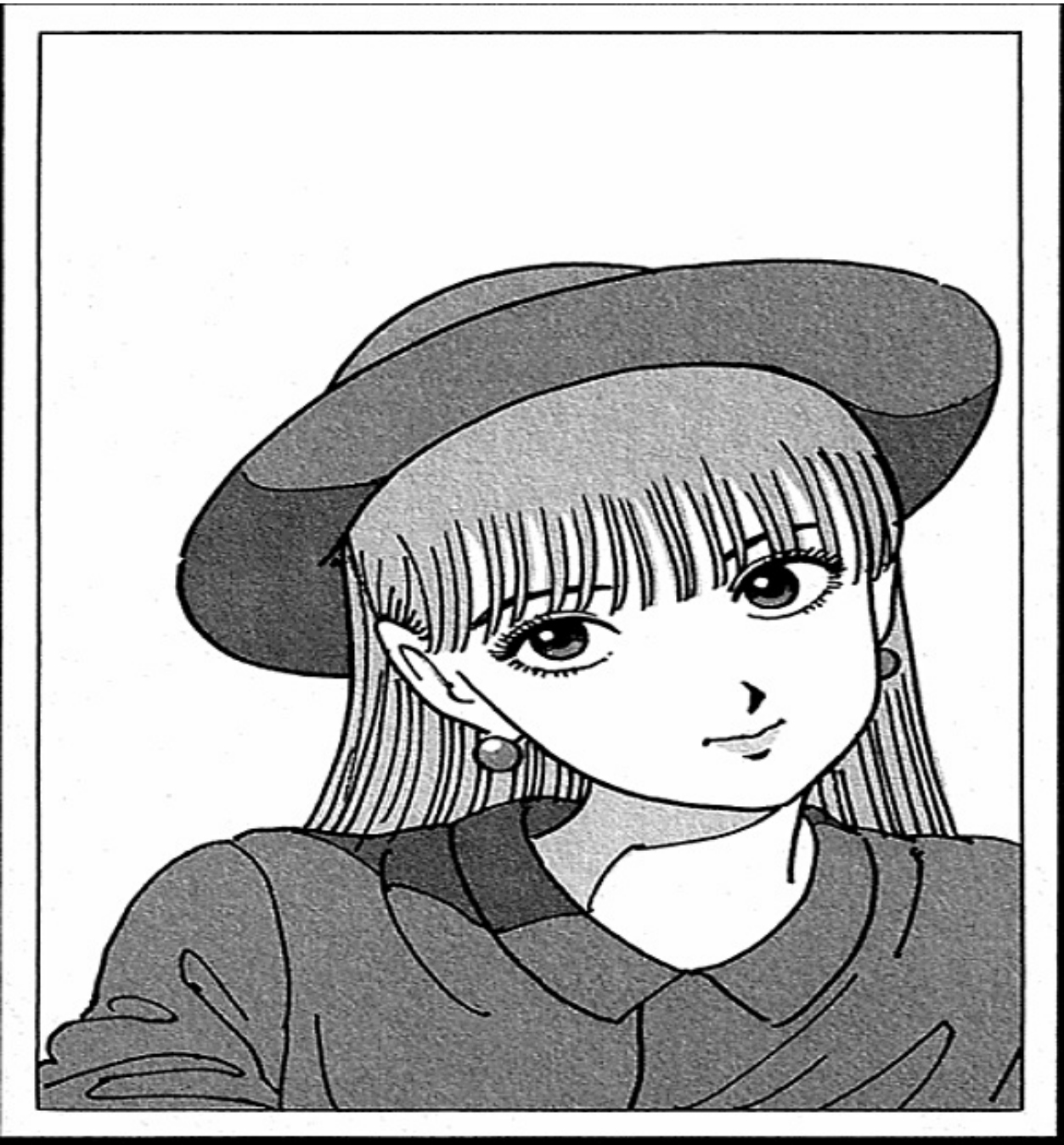

KOU-
SAKU...
WAKE
UP...


OH NO! HE'S
OUT COLD...
I-I'M
SORRY,
KOUSAKU!
I thought you
were gonna
dodge it! You're
so weak.

KOUSAKU-
KUN,
OUR
GROUP
HAS AN
EXCELLENT
COACH
WHO
COULD
TRAIN
YOU.

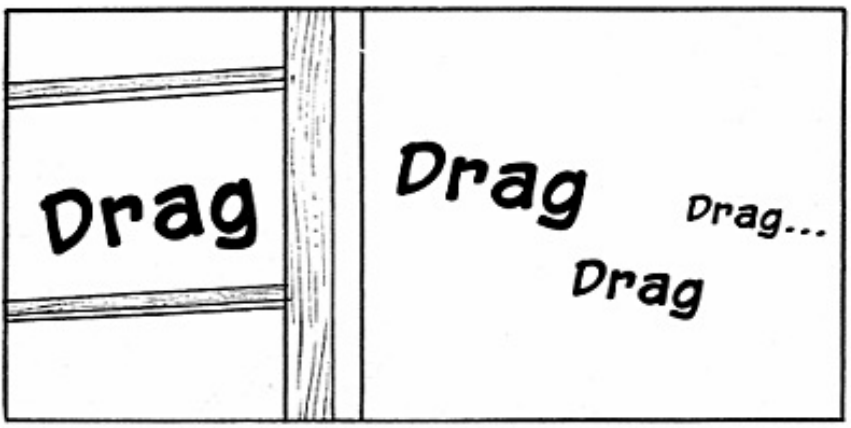

YOU AL-
WAYS
GO
RIGHT
TO
THAT,
SO
YOU'RE
OUT!

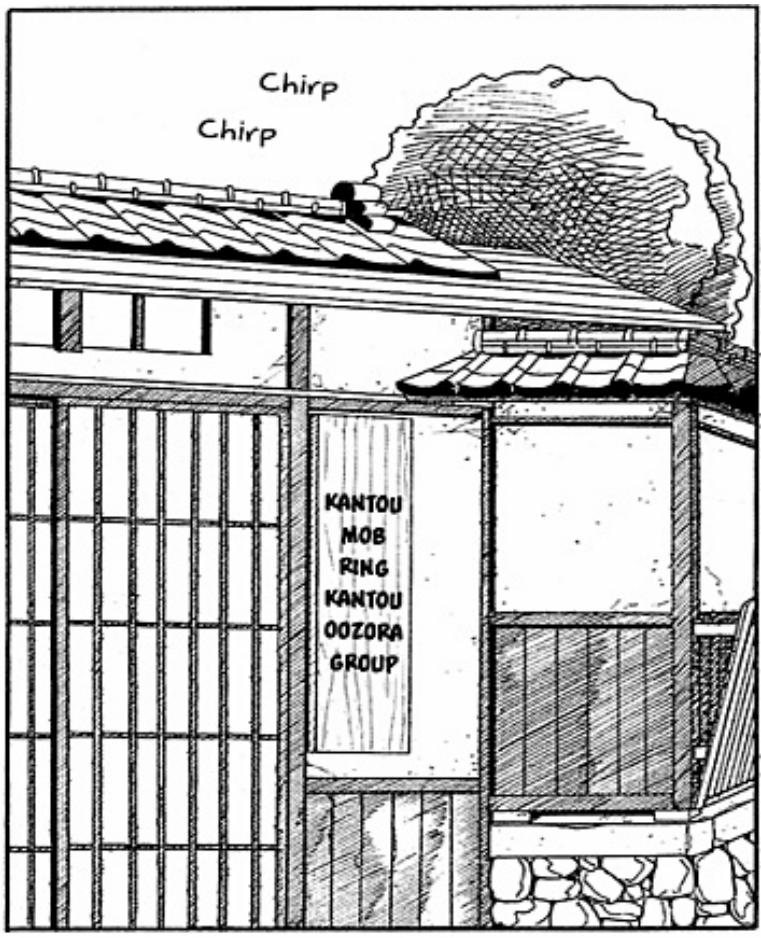

I...I'LL
TRAIN BY
MYSELF!
KOUSAKU!
WHICH OF US
DO YOU WANT
TO TRAIN YOU?
MAKE UP
YOUR MIND!
BOSS,
WH...WHEN
I'M WEARING
GLOVES...
PLEASE CALL ME
TOORU RIKIISHI.
THIS IS ISHIMATSU. HE
HAD TO RETIRE AFTER
SORT OF KILLING A GUY
IN THE RING, BUT HE'S A
FORMER PRO BOXER!
しゅっ
しゅっ



TITLE PAGE FOR "BOXING WITH ME!?"
WHEN IT WAS PUBLISHED IN THE MAGAZINE

TOMORROW'S HIBARI

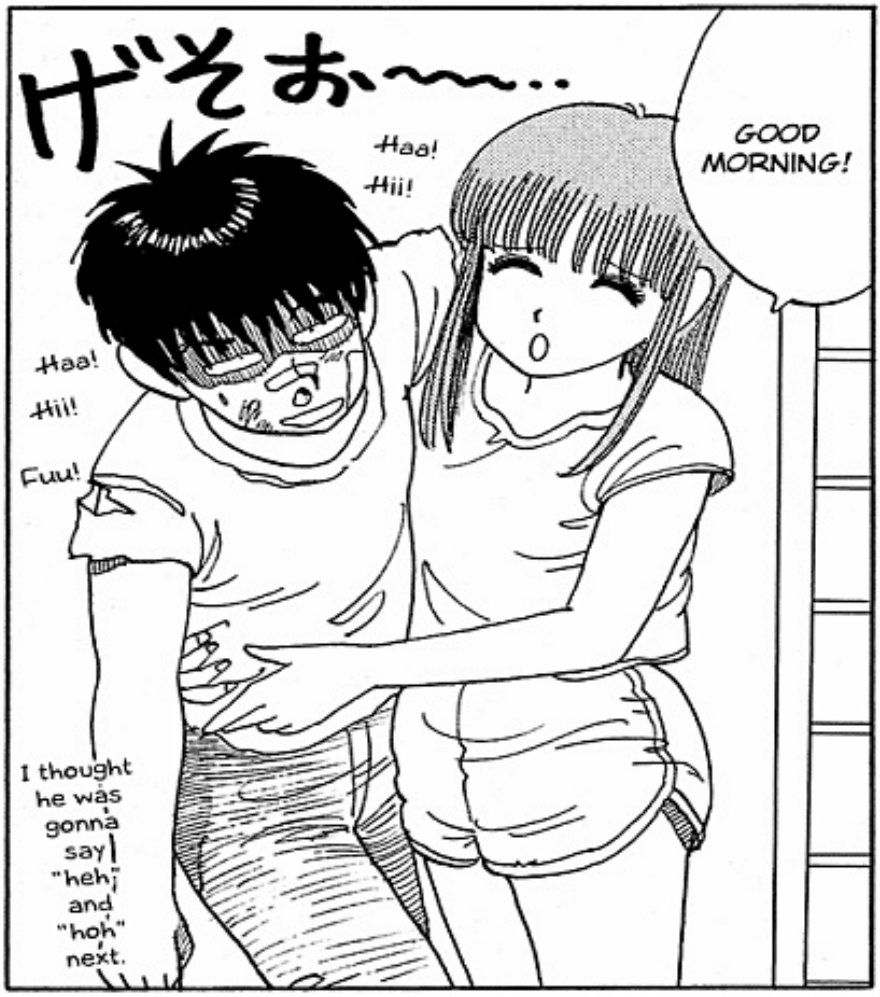

Drag
Drag
Drag...
Drag


Chirp
Chirp
KANTOU
MOB
RING
KANTOU
OOZORA
GROUP

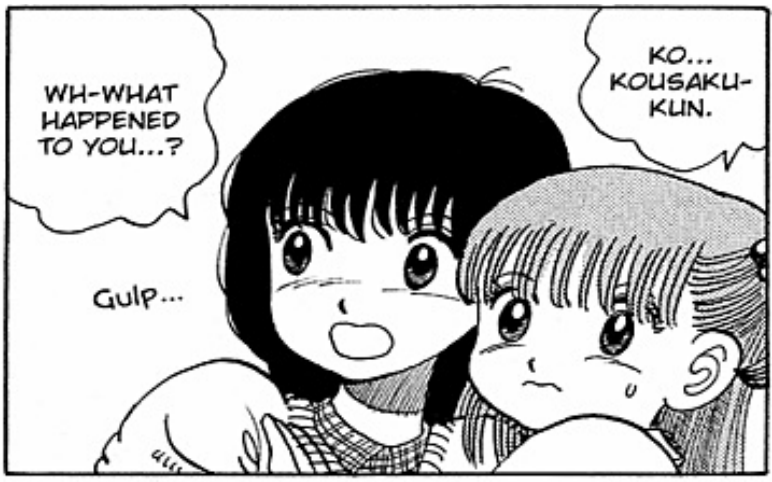
Drag
!?

Whoa!
Sick!

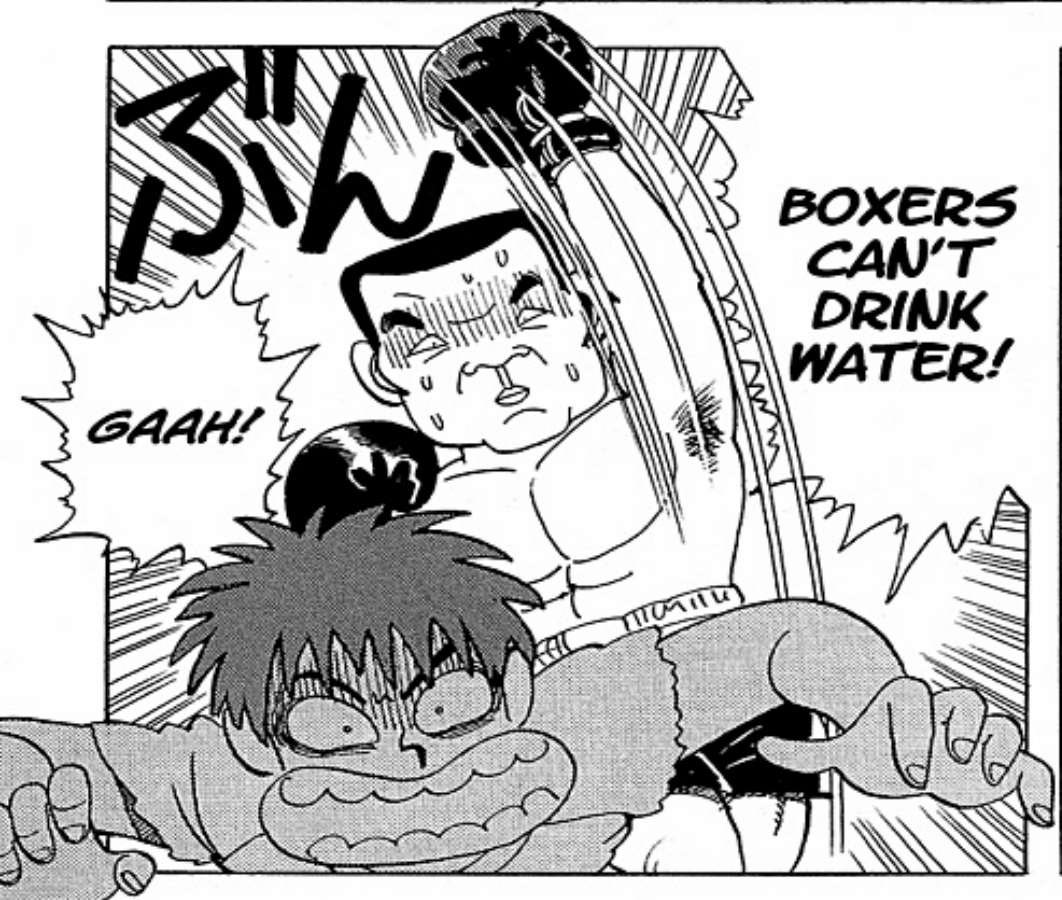
G...
GOOD
MORNIN...


げそお～～…
Haa!
Hii!
GOOD
MORNING!
Haa!
Hii!
Fuu!
I thought he was gonna say "heh" and "hoh" next.

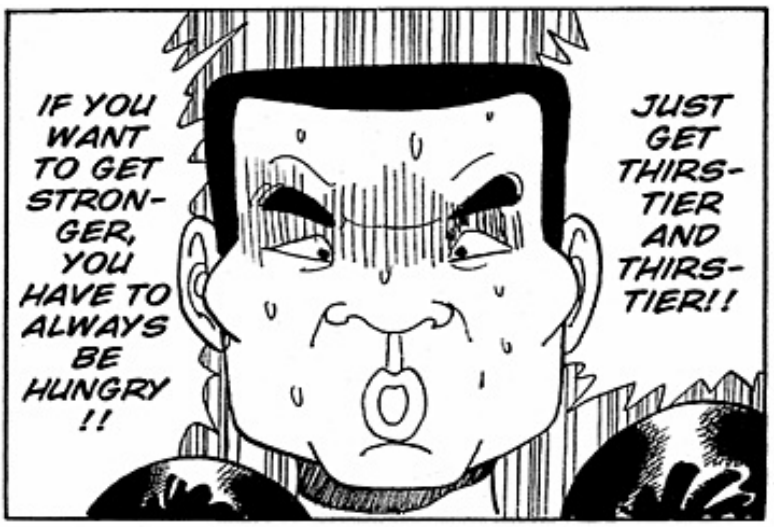
You're so dramatic, Kousaku. Geez...!
Yes.
ARE YOU STILL DOING THAT BOXING TRAINING?

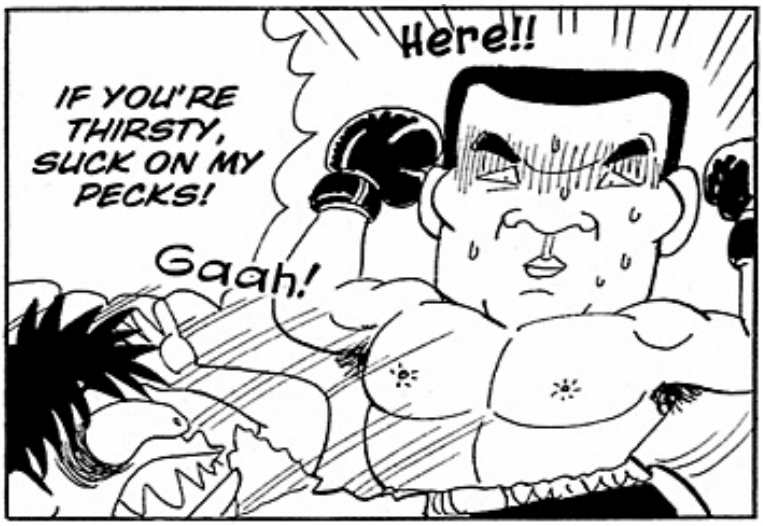

WH-WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU...?
Gulp...
KO... KOUSAKU-KUN.

IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S REALLY DRILLING YOU, KOUSAKU-KUN!

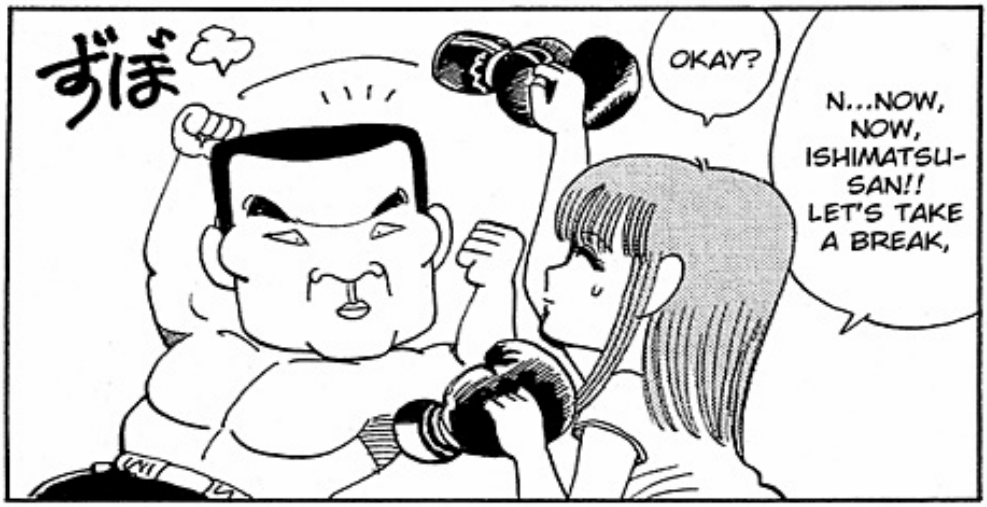

BOXERS CAN'T DRINK WATER!
GAAH!

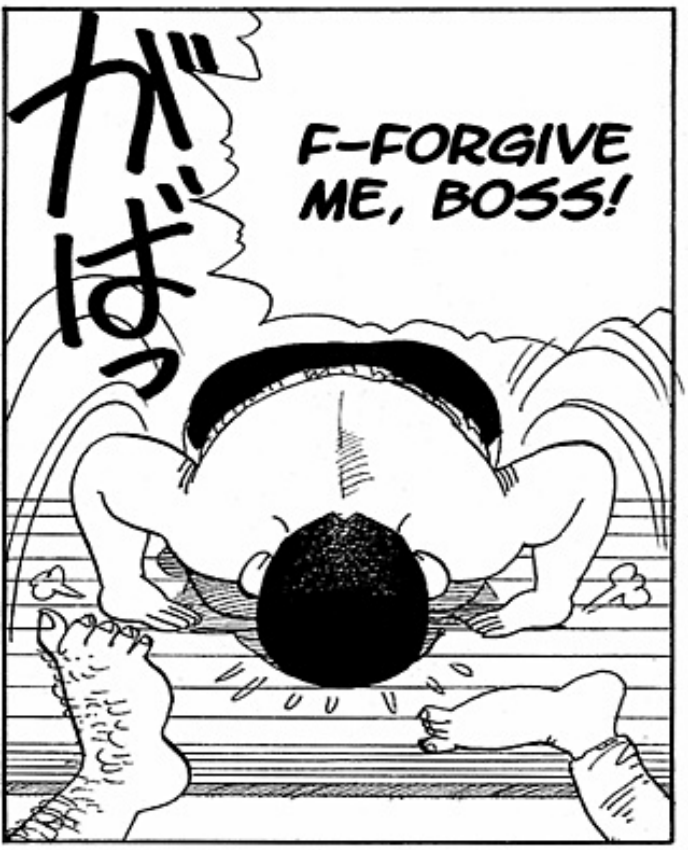
W-WATER? JUST A SECOND.
P...PLEASE GIVE ME A LOT...OF WATER.
Haa!
Hii!
Shake Shake

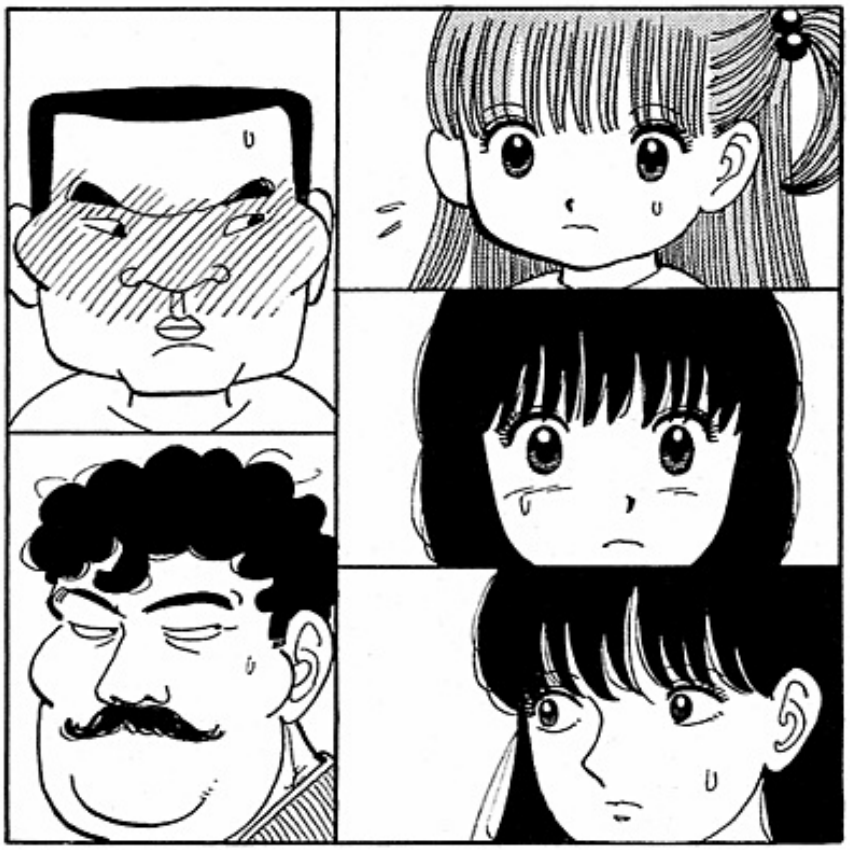

IF YOU WANT TO GET STRONGER, YOU HAVE TO ALWAYS BE HUNGRY!!
JUST GET THIRSTIER AND THIRSTIER!!


IF YOU'RE THIRSTY, SUCK ON MY PECKS!
Here!!
Gaah!

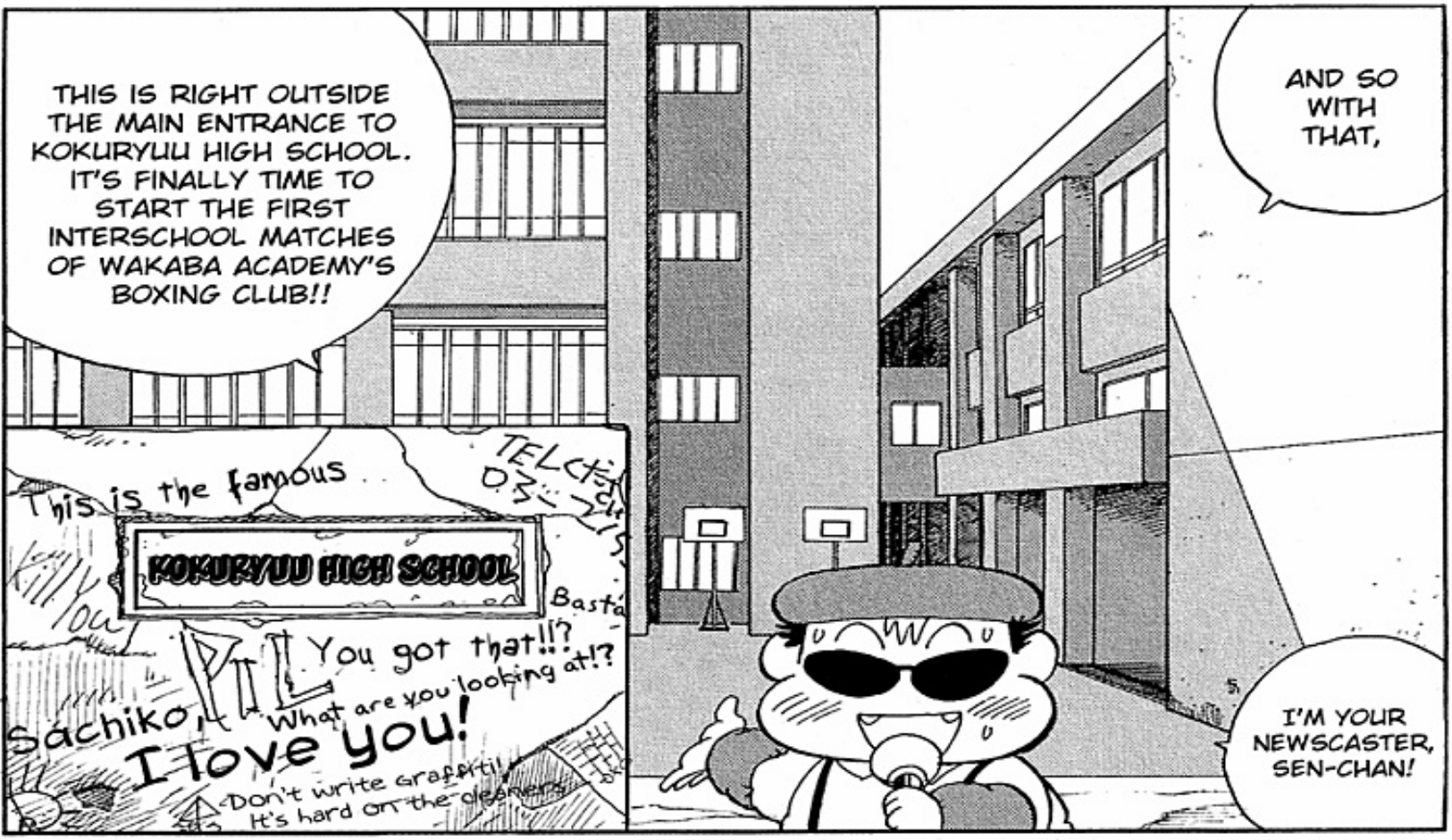
Ah!


ずぼ
OKAY?
N...NOW, NOW, ISHIMATSU-SAN!! LET'S TAKE A BREAK,


がばっ
F-FORGIVE ME, BOSS!



IT...IT'S OKAY, JUST FORGET ABOUT IT... HOW ABOUT YOU JOIN US FOR BREAKFAST?
As expected of the family-oriented Ibari-chan.
PLE-ASE FOR-GIVE ME!
I...I-I'M SORRY, BOSS! A LOWLY SUBORDINATE LIKE ME HAS DEFILED WHERE YOU EAT WITH YOUR FAMILY!
THAT'D JUST BE A WASTE! IT'S UNTHINK-ABLE!
A SCUMBAG LIKE ME COULDN'T POSSIBLY EAT WITH YOUR FAMILY!
ISHIMATSU-SAN'S SO FUNNY!
Are you a grasshopper?
DON'T BE ABSURD!
ぴょん!!
CALL ME TOORU RIKIISHI...
WHEN HE PUTS ON GLOVES LIKE THIS...


THIS IS RIGHT OUTSIDE THE MAIN ENTRANCE TO KOKURYUU HIGH SCHOOL. IT'S FINALLY TIME TO START THE FIRST INTERSCHOOL MATCHES OF WAKABA ACADEMY'S BOXING CLUB!!
This is the famous
KOKURYUU HIGH SCHOOL
Sachiko, I love you!
You got that!!?
What are you looking at!?
Don't write graffiti! It's hard on the cleaners.
AND SO WITH THAT,
I'M YOUR NEWSCASTER, SEN-CHAN!

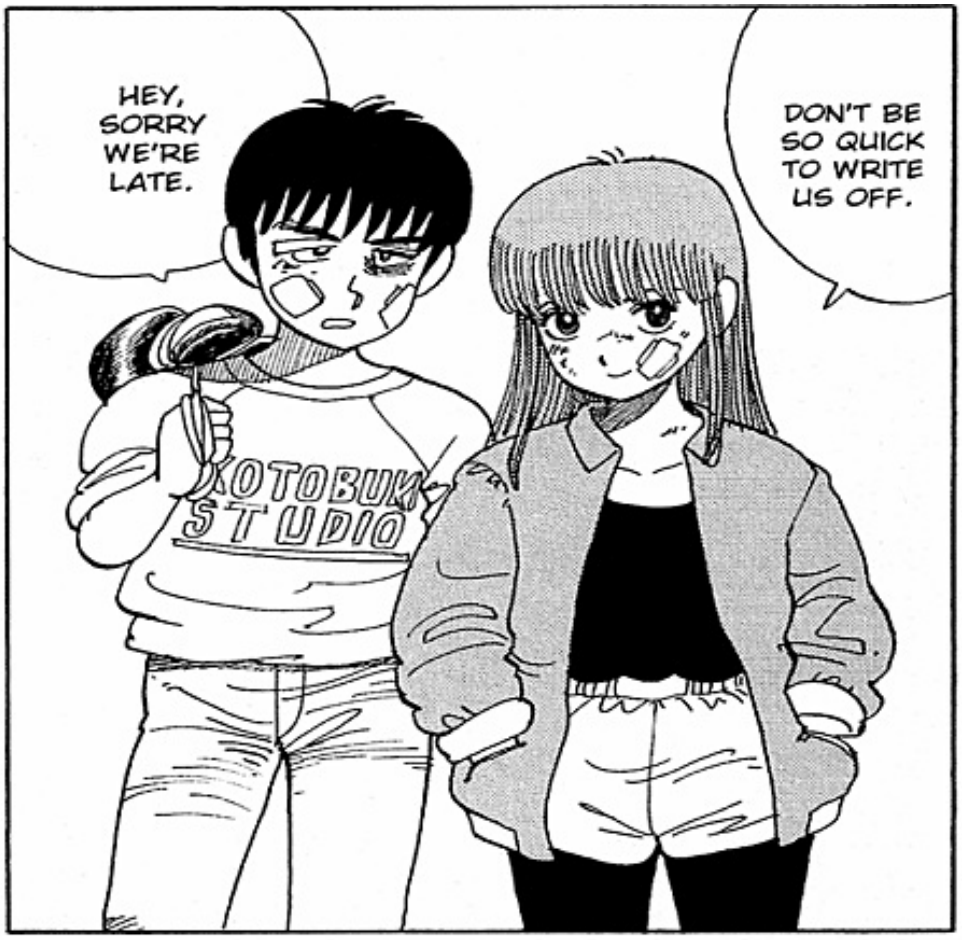
WE DIDN'T COME TO PICK A FIGHT! WE CAME TO PLAY SOME SPORTS MATCHES!
YOU MORON! WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO IF YOU GET SPOOKED BEFORE THE MATCHES!?

D-DON'T YOU GUYS THINK THE PLACE IS KIND OF GIVING OFF A BAD VIBE?
S...SO THIS IS KOKURYUU HIGH?
DON'T BE AN IDIOT.
I'M GOING HOME.
Live
Kill
I'm a punk!
Leave!
Mako!
Grab

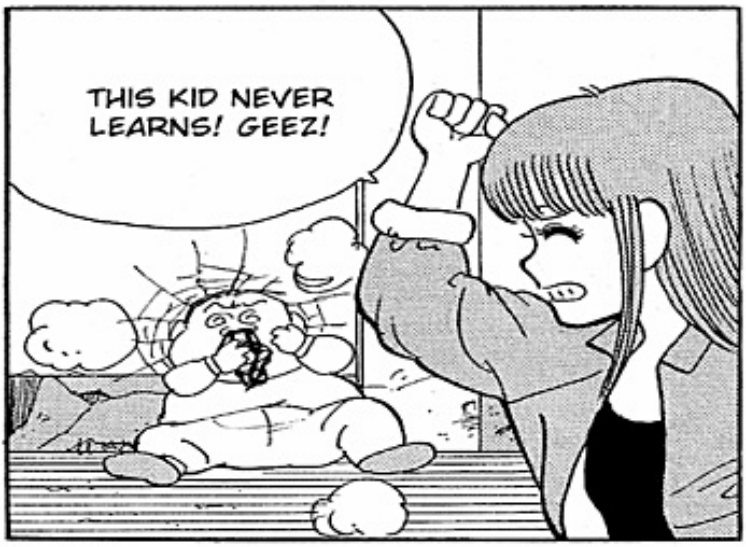
ひ～～んやり…
びくっ！
スタスタスタ
THERE'S NOTHING TO BE SCARED OF!
WHAT? THAT SCHOOL FULL OF RICH GUYS?
WAKABA'S BOXING CLUB.
WHO THE HELL ARE THEY?
HEH! HEH! HEH! HERE THEY COME.
ぎくっ！
ぬっ
O...OH! URGH!
HEY! HEY! HEY!
しゅた！
WELL, I'M BUSY WITH STUFF AT COLLEGE, SO I'LL SEE YOU LATER!

Th...This is a very unique school!
WH...WHAT!? THAT'S A TEACHER!?
あたぁ!
SHEESH! WHY DON'T YOU JUST GIVE UP METH NOW THAT YOU'RE AN ADULT, SENSEI?
Haa!
Hii!
KA...KAWADA! DO YOU HAVE ANY MEDS ON YOU...?
Haa!
THANKS FOR GOING OUT OF YOUR WAY TO COME ALL THE WAY HERE.
ALL OF US IN THE BOXING CLUB HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU.
HEY! HOW'S IT GOING? THANKS FOR DROPPING BY!
Keh keh keh!
DON'T START DEMEANING US.
Well, that's only natural! You're letting us train with a stronger club such as yourselves, after all!
Smack
COULD YOU PLEASE NOT THREATEN ME ALL OF A SUDDEN?
THEY DIDN'T GET SCARED AND RUN AWAY, RIGHT?
Huh?
BY THE WAY, I DON'T SEE SAKAMOTO-KUN OR OOZORA-SAN.

HEY! STOP SPREADING BASELESS RUMORS!
WE ENDED UP TAKING OUR TIME IN THE MORNING, AHA!
What!?
What happened to your faces..?

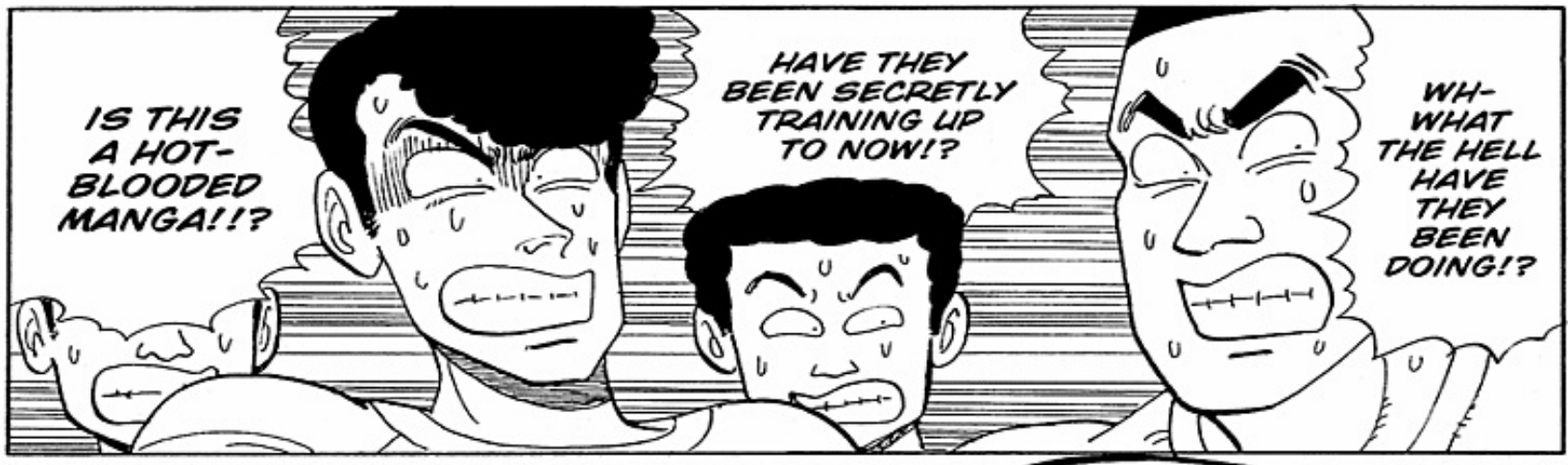

HEY, SORRY WE'RE LATE.
DON'T BE SO QUICK TO WRITE US OFF.

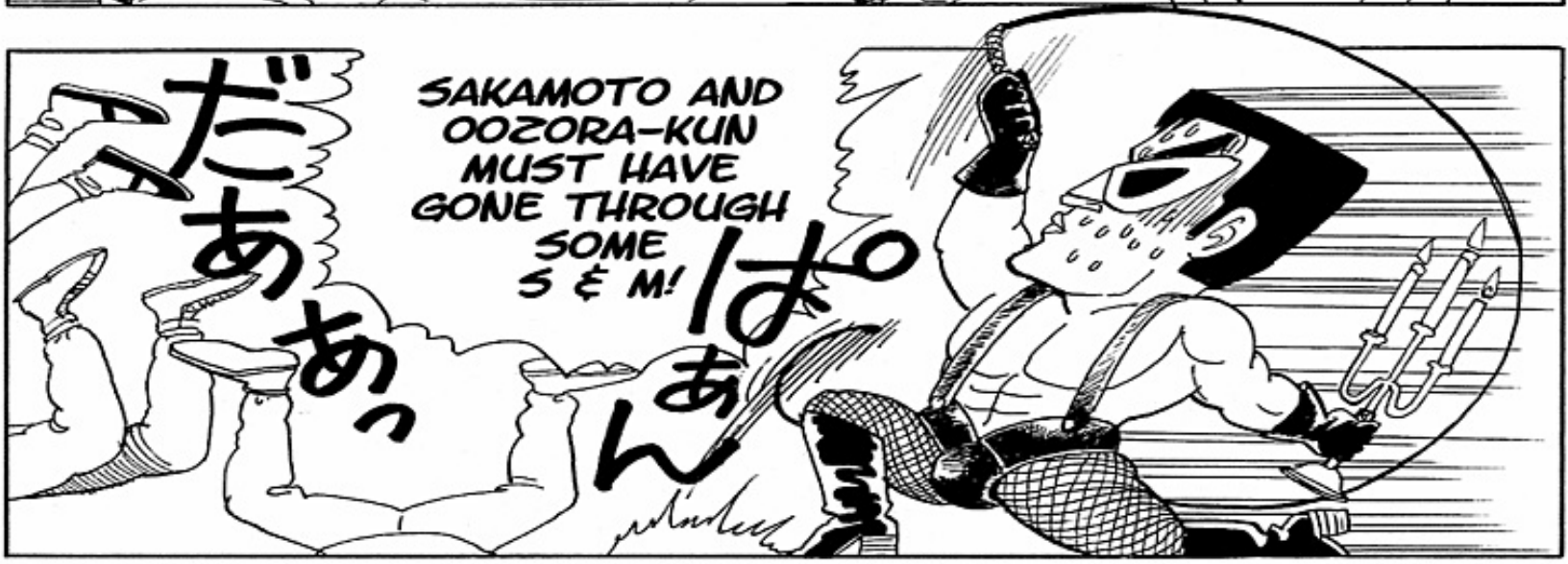
BAM!


THIS KID NEVER LEARNS! GEEZ!

COME AND PLAY WITH YAKKUN!
THANKS FOR COMING, HIBARI-CHAN!
どどどどど

Ihihihi!
JUST LEAVE IT TO ME. YOU'LL BE ABLE TO DO WHATEVER YOU WANT TO HIBARI LATER.
BUT I WANT TO HURRY UP AND EXCHANGE THIS DOLL WITH HIBARI-CHAN, YOU KNOW?
NOW, NOW, CAPTAIN. DON'T BE IN SUCH A HURRY.
I'm a night girl
IF YOU UNDERESTIMATE KOKURYUU...
LIFELONG VILLAIN
I'LL MAKE SURE THAT THOSE TWO FULLY REALIZE WHAT WILL HAPPEN...HEE HEE HEE HEE!
Give 'em hell, Kousaku!
HIBARI'S THE SAME WAY.
AND LOOK AT TH...THOSE SCARS ALL OVER HIS BODY...
DOESN'T SAKAMOTO-KUN LOOK KIND OF DIFFERENT FROM USUAL?
IT'S NOT JUST KOU-SAKU.

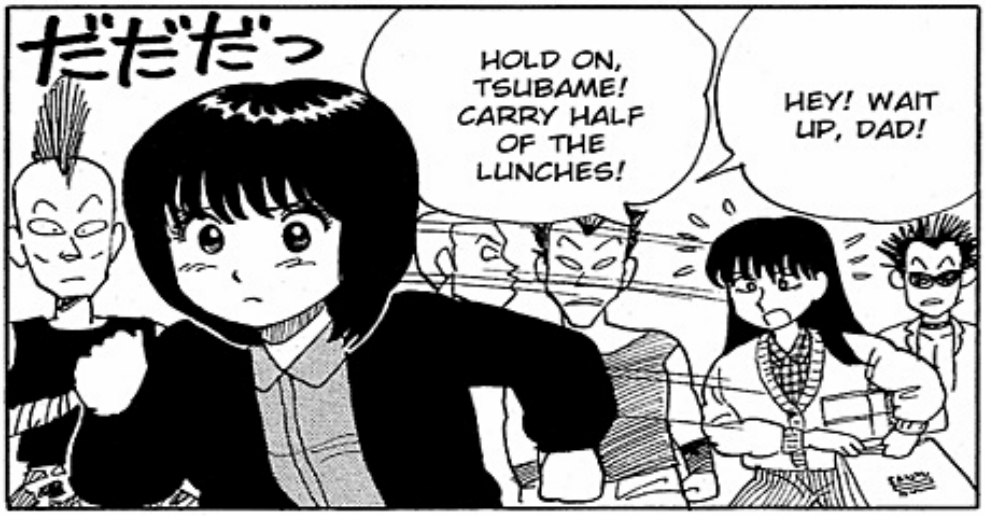

IS THIS A HOT-BLOODED MANGA!!?
HAVE THEY BEEN SECRETLY TRAINING UP TO NOW!?
WH-WHAT THE HELL HAVE THEY BEEN DOING!?


SAKAMOTO AND OOZORA-KUN MUST HAVE GONE THROUGH SOME S & M!
だあぁっ
ぱぁん

ぞろぞろぞろっ

SNAP
WELL THEN, IT'S ABOUT TIME WE STARTED THE MATCHES.

Sqee
Screech
SEX PISTOLS
WHOA!
Click
HEY! DON'T DRIVE SOME FOREIGN CAR RIGHT OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL!
BAM
HEY! YOU CAN'T STOP HERE!
HMPH.
ALL RIGHT... WE'RE HERE, B-BOSS. R-R-RIGHT THIS WAY.
AH! N...NO, UM...
WERE YOU THE ONE WHO JUST KICKED OUR CAR?
HEY!



Emblem: Oozora

SO THIS IS WHY YOU INVITED US HERE?

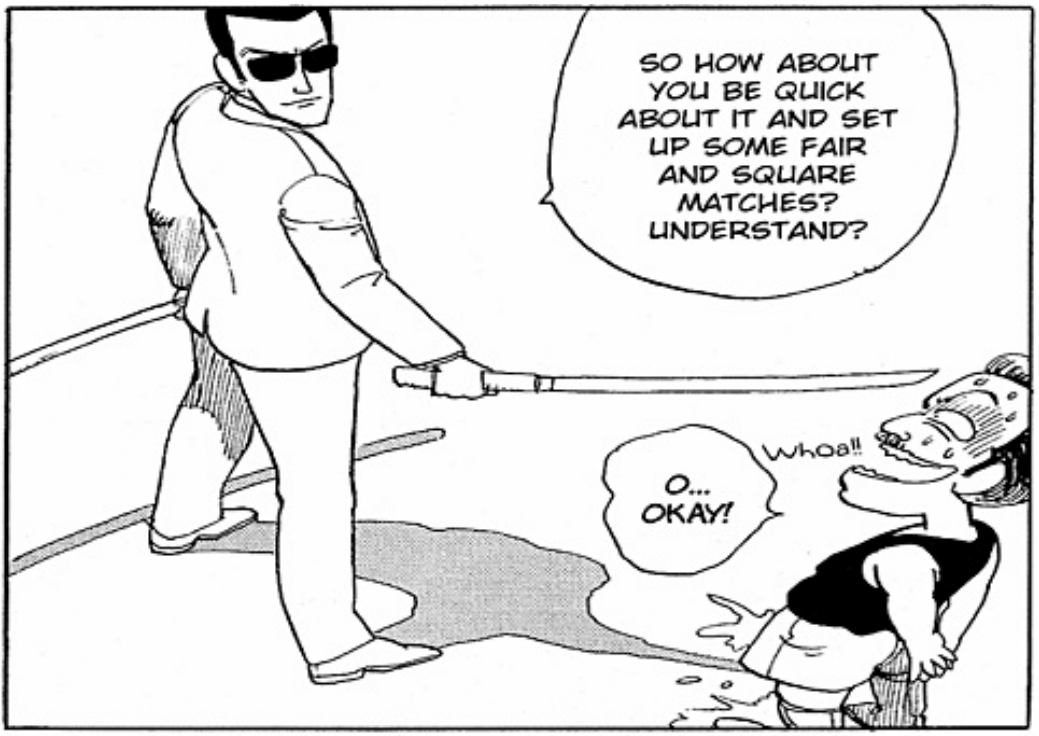
ARE YOU OKAY, SHIINA!?

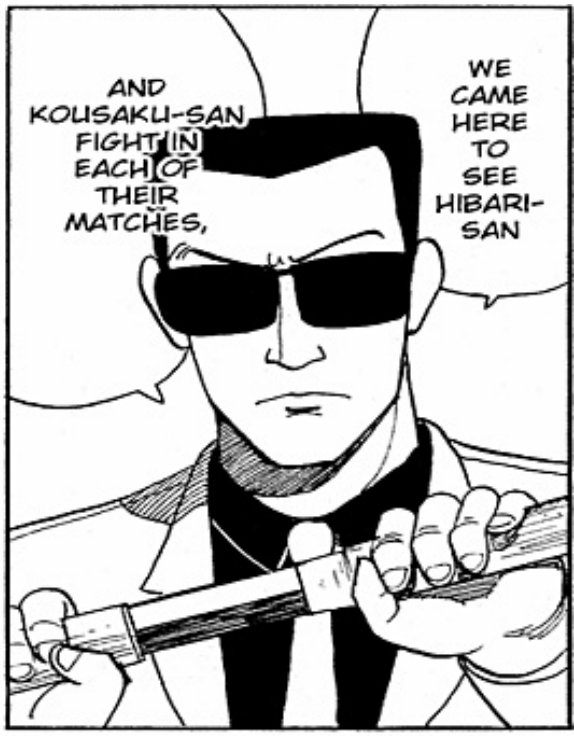
DID YOU THINK THAT WE'D SERIOUSLY HAVE SOME MATCHES WITH SOME PLACE LIKE WAKABA?
YEP, THAT'S RIGHT.

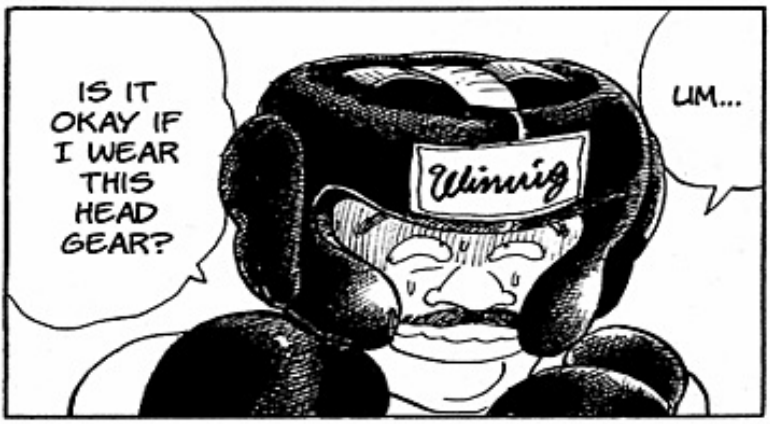
M-MAKE SURE YOU DON'T HURT HER! HAND HER OVER TO ME WITH THAT PRETTY BODY OF HERS.
Y-YOU BITCH! DON'T BE SO QUICK TO POINT OUT SOMEONE'S COMPLEX!
ムカッ

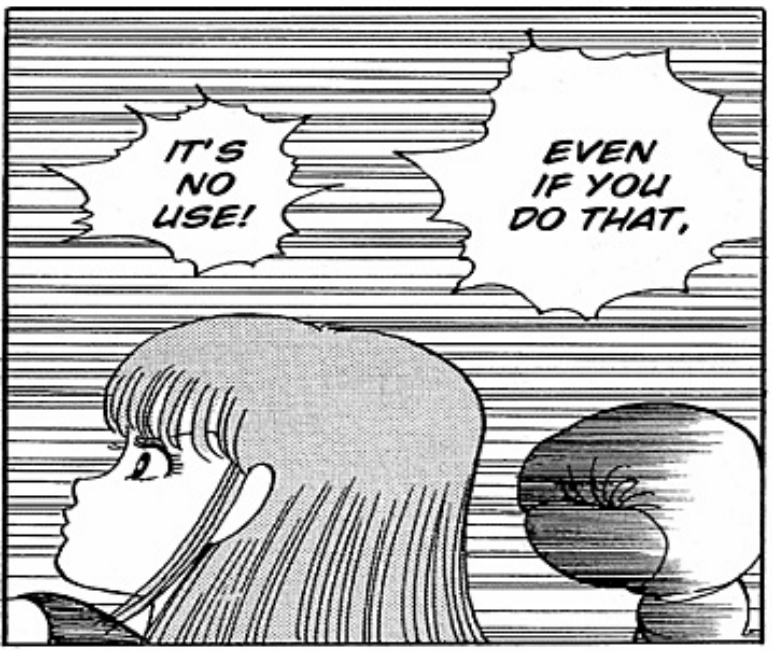
YOU MAY BE STRONG, HIBARI-CHAN, BUT CAN YOU TAKE ON ALL OF US AT ONCE? I WONDER...
NOW THEN, IT'S TIME WE PAID BACK THESE TWO IN FULL FOR THE OTHER DAY AS THE MAIN EVENT.
YOU SHORTY! YOU'RE JUST A COWARD!
She's cute! Look over here!
Spin
Ihihihi! Cute ass!
HI... HIBARI-KUN...

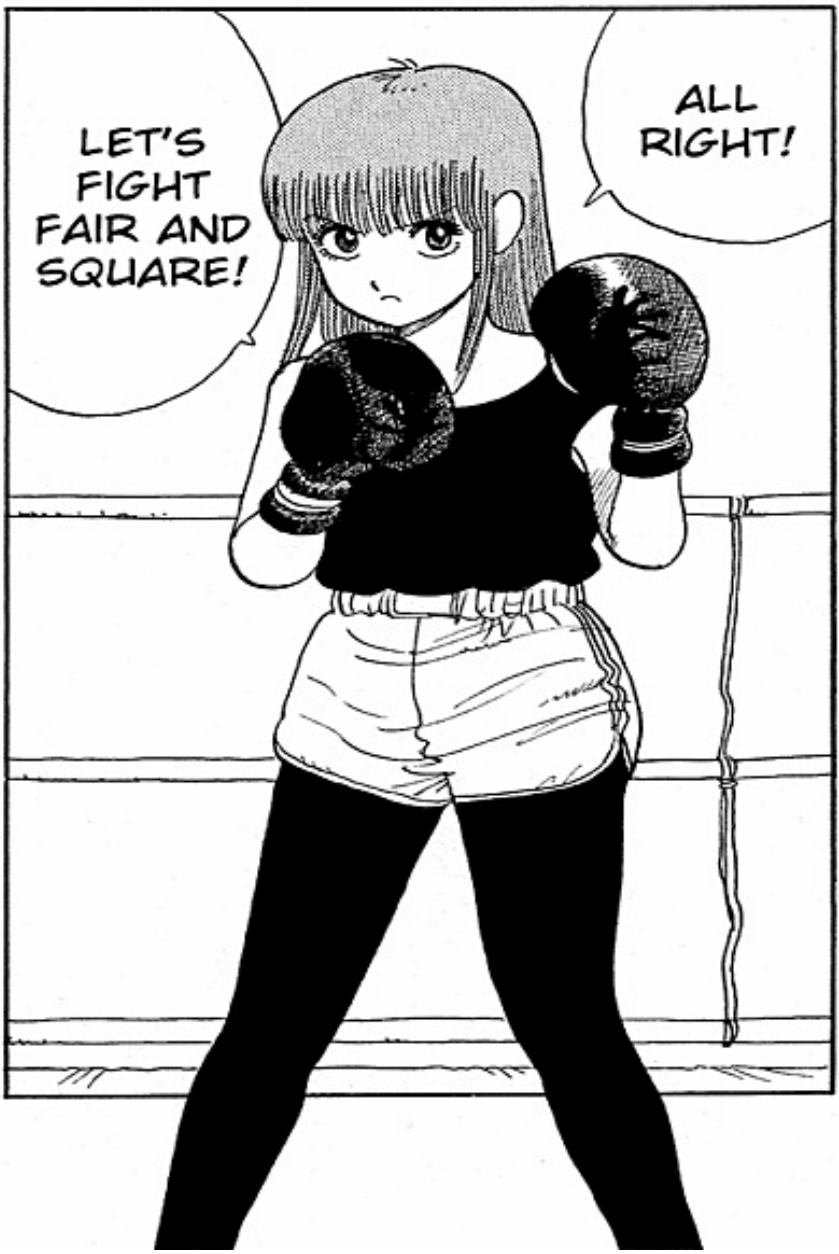
ばーん!
Waa!
I'LL JUST LOCK THE DOOR...HOW CARELESS OF US! KEH KEH KEH!
Click
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU GUYS DOING?
EVEN THOUGH WE CAME TO WATCH THE BOXING MATCHES, WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON HERE?
Sir!
Dad!?
DAD!
ヒぁあっ
W-WHO ARE ALL OF YOU!?

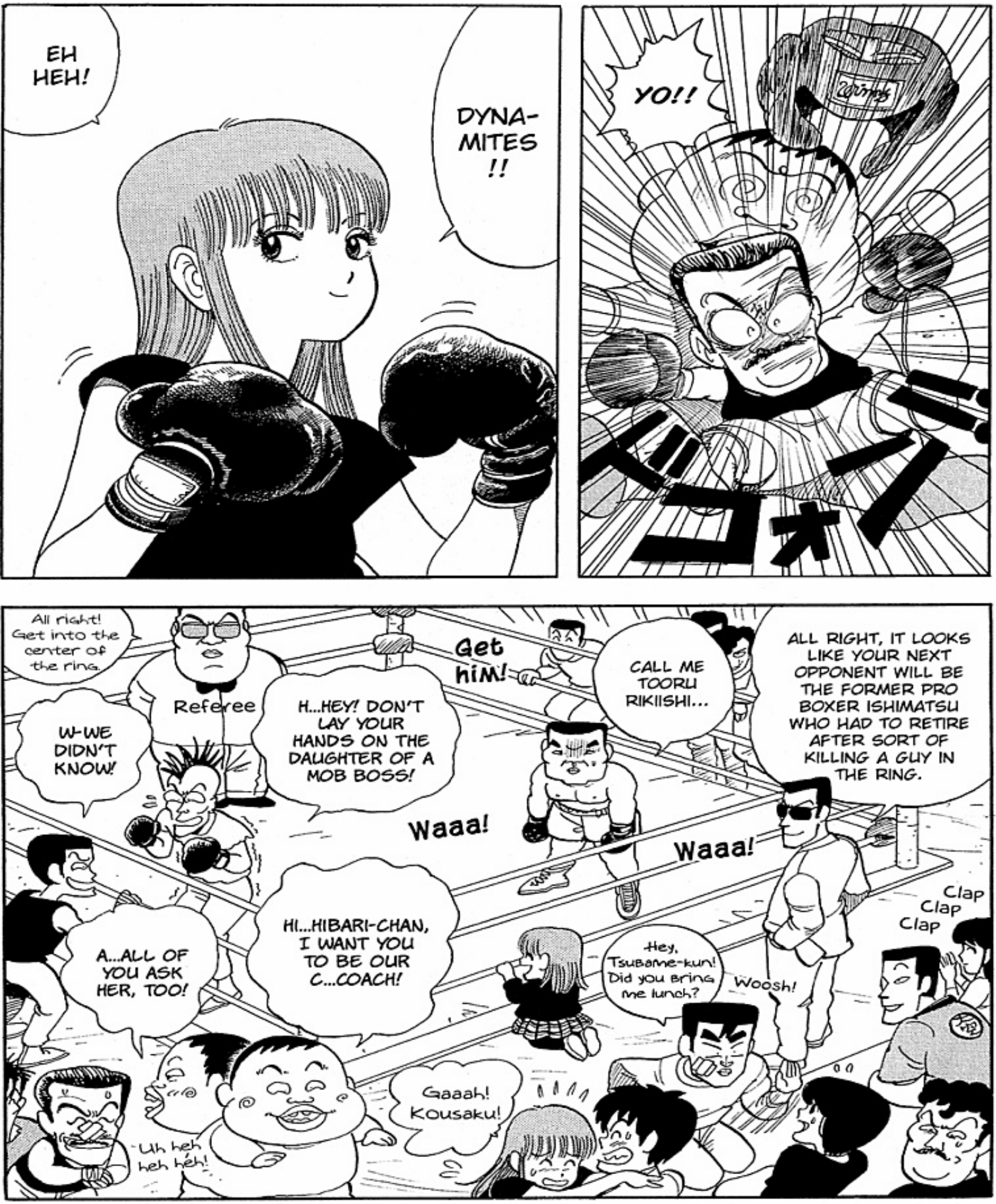

SO HOW ABOUT YOU BE QUICK ABOUT IT AND SET UP SOME FAIR AND SQUARE MATCHES? UNDERSTAND?
Whoa!!
O... OKAY!


WE CAME HERE TO SEE HIBARI-SAN
AND KOUSAKU-SAN FIGHT IN EACH OF THEIR MATCHES,


IS IT OKAY IF I WEAR THIS HEAD GEAR?
UM...
Winning


IT'S NO USE!
EVEN IF YOU DO THAT,

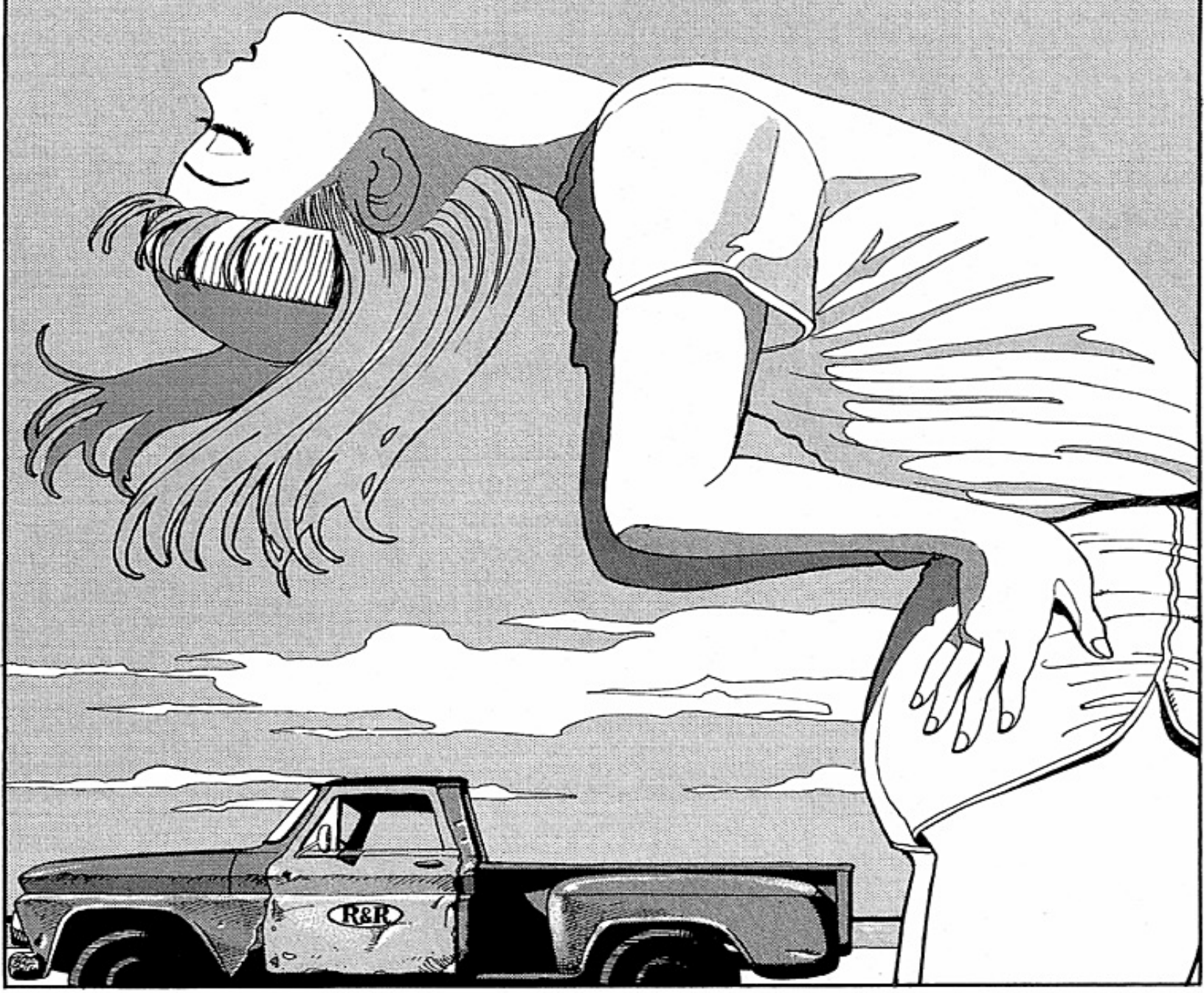

LET'S FIGHT FAIR AND SQUARE!
ALL RIGHT!

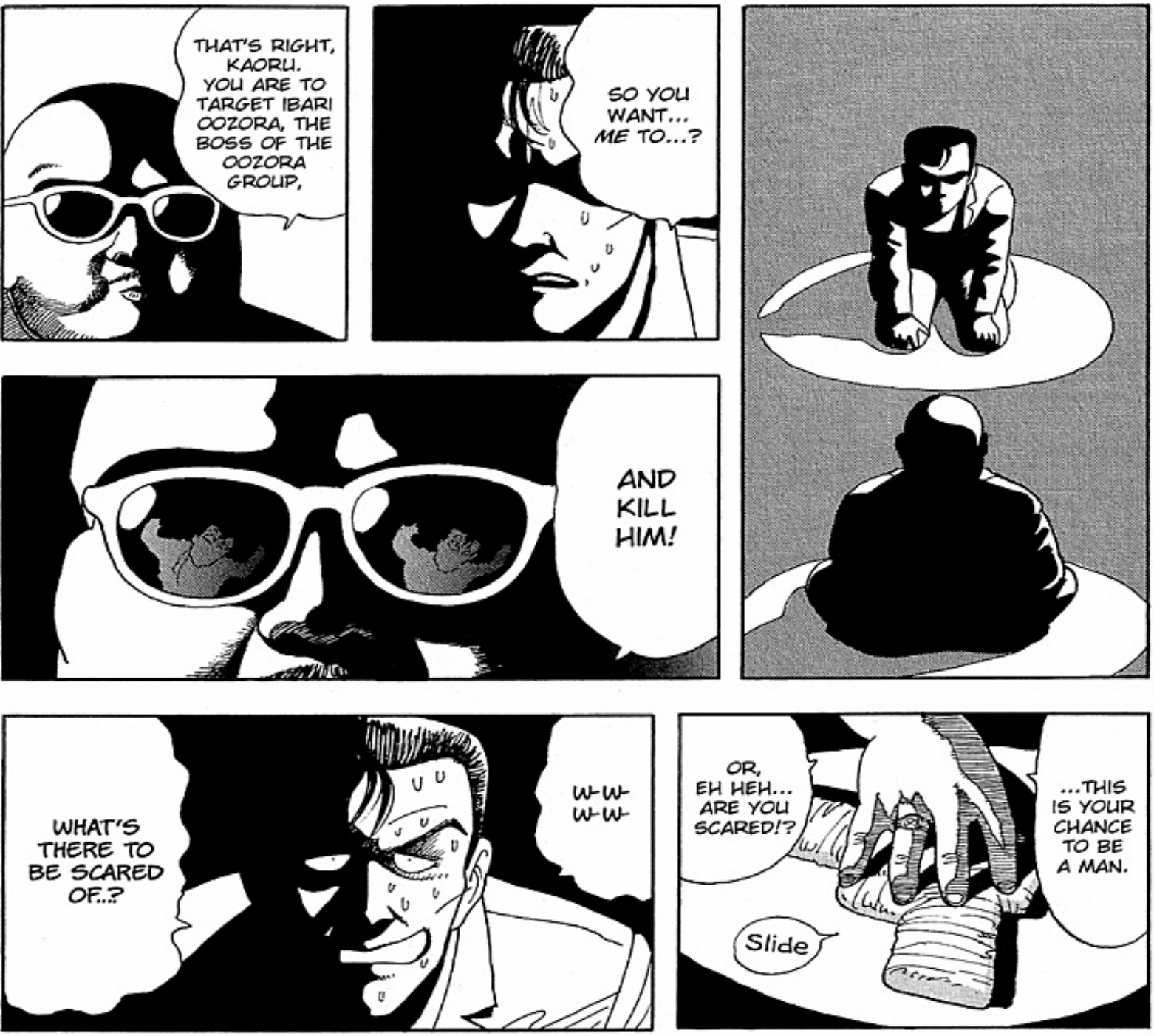

EH HEH!
DYNA-MITES !!
YO!!
All right! Get into the center of the ring.
Referee
W-WE DIDN'T KNOW!
H...HEY! DON'T LAY YOUR HANDS ON THE DAUGHTER OF A MOB BOSS!
Get him!
Waaa!
CALL ME TOORU RIKIISHI...
ALL RIGHT, IT LOOKS LIKE YOUR NEXT OPPONENT WILL BE THE FORMER PRO BOXER ISHIMATSU WHO HAD TO RETIRE AFTER SORT OF KILLING A GUY IN THE RING.
Waaa!
Clap Clap Clap
A...ALL OF YOU ASK HER, TOO!
HI...HIBARI-CHAN, I WANT YOU TO BE OUR C...COACH!
Hey, Tsubame-kun! Did you bring me lunch?
Woosh!
Gaaah! Kousaku!
Uh heh heh heh!

KOTOBUKI STUDIO

HELLO, HITMAN (PART I)

PRESENTS




THAT'S RIGHT, KAORU. YOU ARE TO TARGET IBARI OOZORA, THE BOSS OF THE OOZORA GROUP,
SO YOU WANT... ME TO...?
AND KILL HIM!
WHAT'S THERE TO BE SCARED OF..?
W-W-W-W
OR, EH HEH... ARE YOU SCARED!?
Slide
...THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO BE A MAN.

STOP!!
HIBARI-KUN!

HELLO, HITMAN (PART 1)

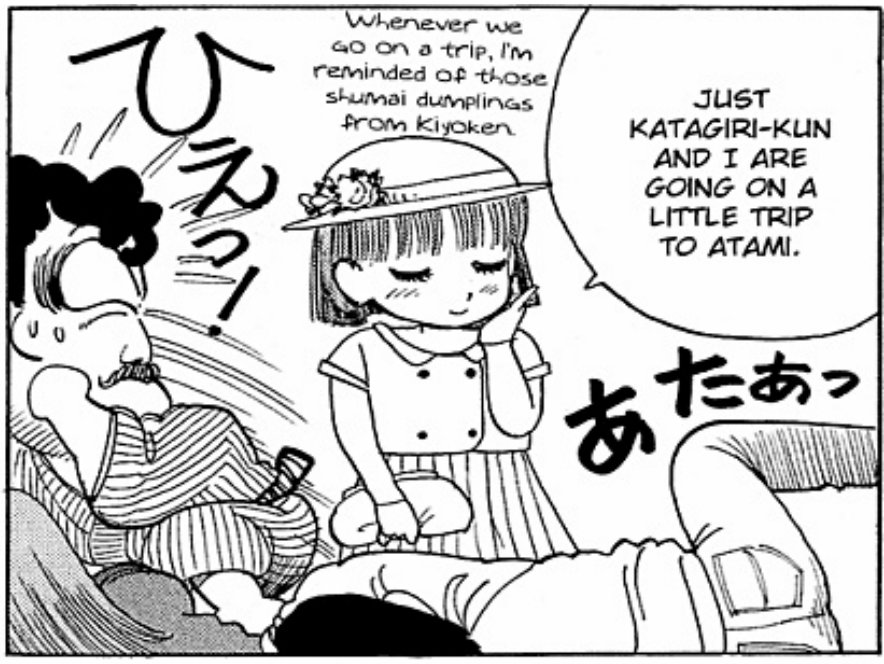
KOTOBUKI STUDIO PRESENTS

©1983

FOOH!
FOOH!
FOOH!
News-
paper!
Run
Run
Run
FOOH!
FOOH!
FOOH!
NEWS-
PAPER!
Running Monster
Granny
ひょおおっ
FOOH!
FOOH!
FOOH...
Run
Run
Run
FOOOH!
FOH!
FOH!
FOH!
FOOOH! FOH!
FOH! FOH!

WELL, ABOUT THAT, DAD,
I'M COUNTING ON YOU, TSUGUMI.
WHAT WOULD A GROUP RETREAT FOR THE MOB BE LIKE...?
AND SO FOR THE NEXT TWO DAYS OVER THE WEEKEND, THE OOZORA GROUP WILL BE AWAY ON A RETREAT, SO LOOK AFTER THE HOUSE FOR ME.
ABOUT THAT, DAD,
WELL, I GUESS YOU CAN'T DO ANYTHING IF YOUR FRIEND IS GETTING MARRIED... THEN I'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU, TSUBAME.
IT'S GONNA BE IN KYOTO, SO I WON'T BE BACK FOR TWO DAYS.
I HAVE TO GO TO THE WEDDING OF MY FRIEND FROM HIGH SCHOOL.
WHAT!? YOU TOO, SUZUME-CHAN!? WELL!?
UM... IT'S KIND OF HARD TO SAY THIS, BUT...
You're not gonna be there with a guy, right?
EVER SINCE YOU STARTED COLLEGE, HAVEN'T YOU BEEN HAVING A LITTLE TOO MUCH FUN?
I'M JUST GOING WITH MY GIRL FRIENDS! REALLY!
Teh heh!
I'M IN THE SAME BOAT. UM... I PROMISED THAT I'D GO STAY OVER IN TATESHINA TO PLAY TENNIS STARTING TODAY.

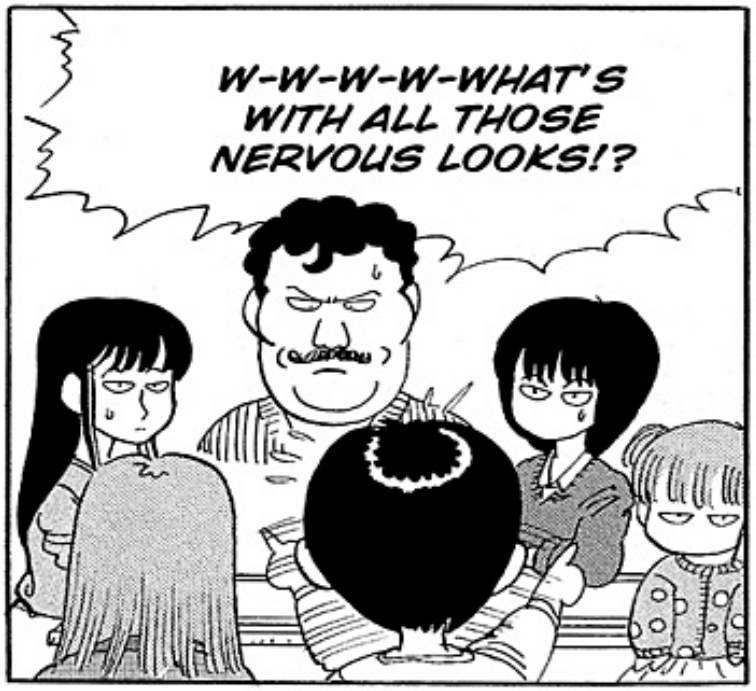
What's so fun about shocking an adult with a weak heart?
JUST KIDDING! I WAS INVITED TO KATAGIRI-KUN'S BIRTHDAY PARTY!

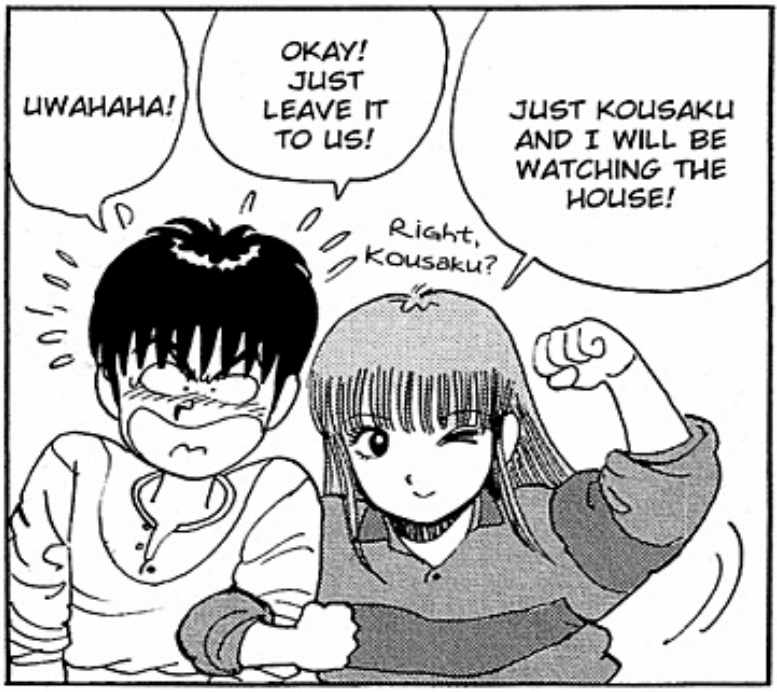

ひえっ!
Whenever we go on a trip, I'm reminded of those shumai dumplings from Kiyoken
JUST KATAGIRI-KUN AND I ARE GOING ON A LITTLE TRIP TO ATAMI.
あたあっ

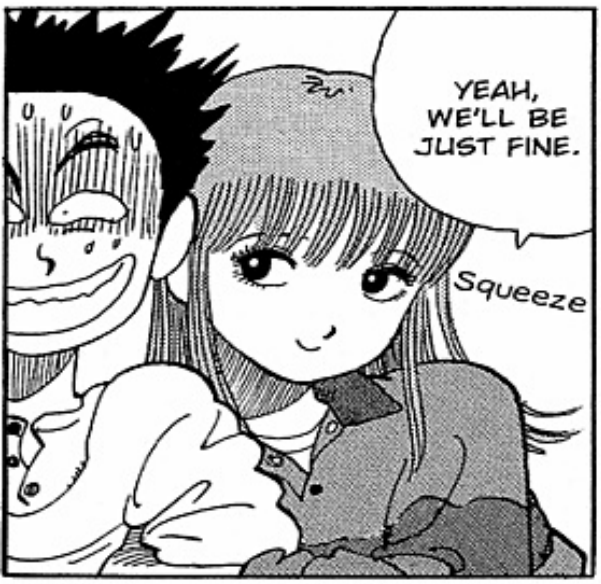
MEANS...

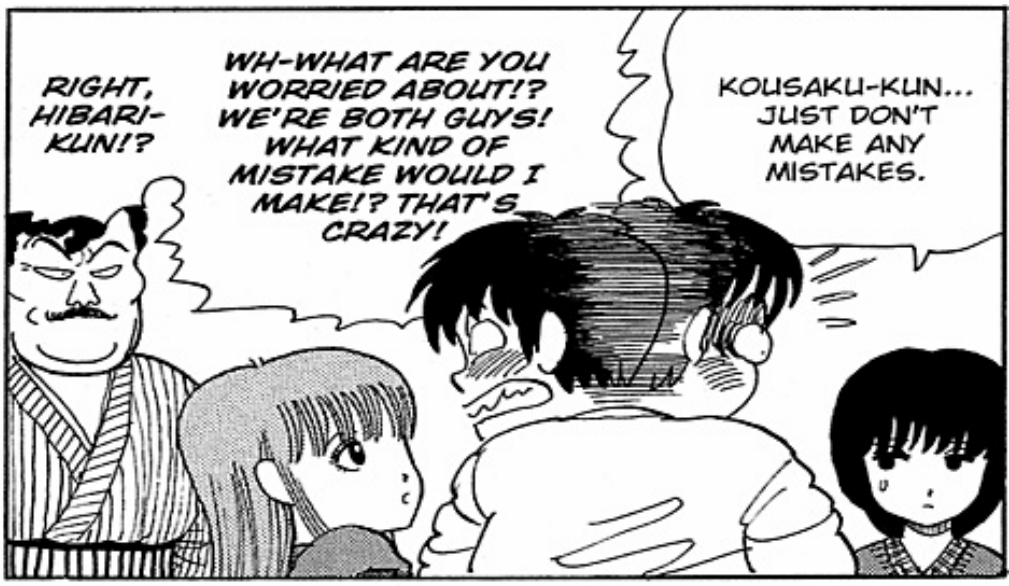
THAT

SO
SO I'M GONNA BE STAYING OVER AT KATAGIRI-KUN'S HOUSE TONIGHT!

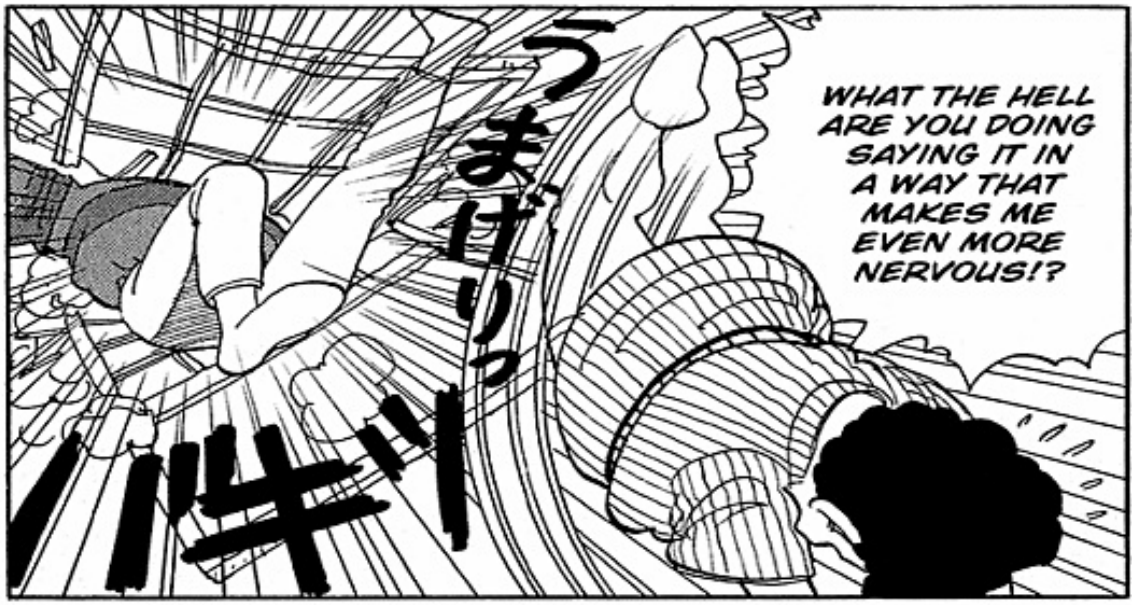

W-W-W-W-WHAT'S WITH ALL THOSE NERVOUS LOOKS!?

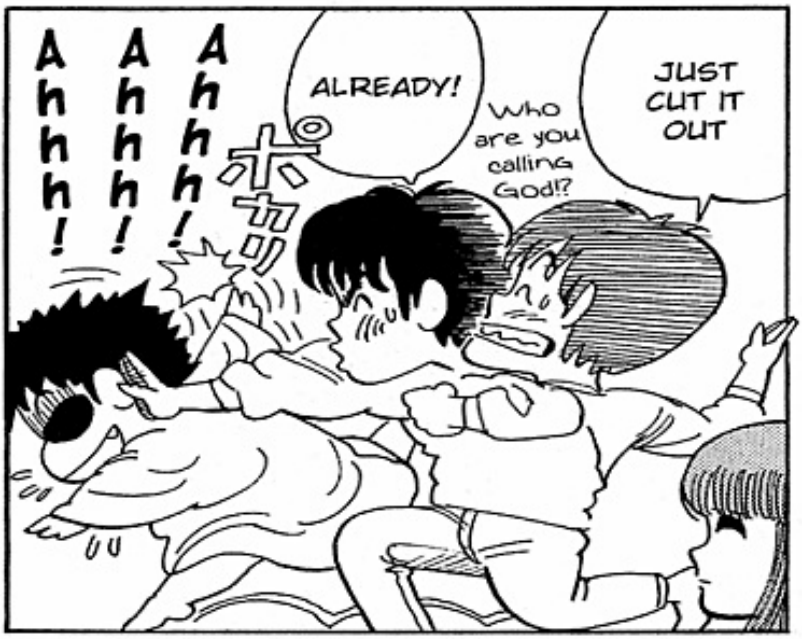

UWAHAHA!
OKAY! JUST LEAVE IT TO US!
Right, Kousaku?
JUST KOUSAKU AND I WILL BE WATCHING THE HOUSE!

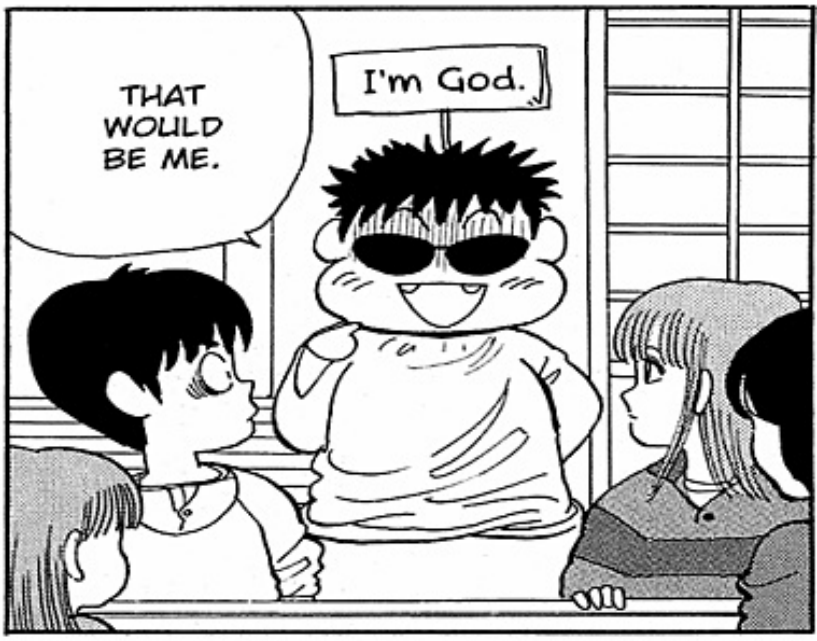



KOUSAKU-KUN... JUST DON'T MAKE ANY MISTAKES.
WH-WHAT ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT!? WE'RE BOTH GUYS! WHAT KIND OF MISTAKE WOULD I MAKE!? THAT'S CRAZY!
RIGHT, HIBARI-KUN!?

BUT STILL, IF EVERYONE'S PLANS ARE SO UNNATURALLY OVERLAPPING LIKE THIS, THE ONLY THING I CAN THINK OF IS THAT GOD IS PLAYING A TRICK ON US.





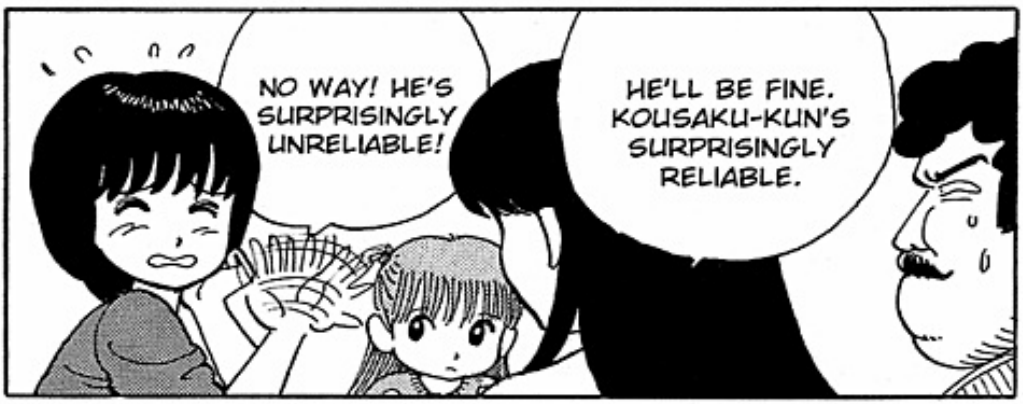


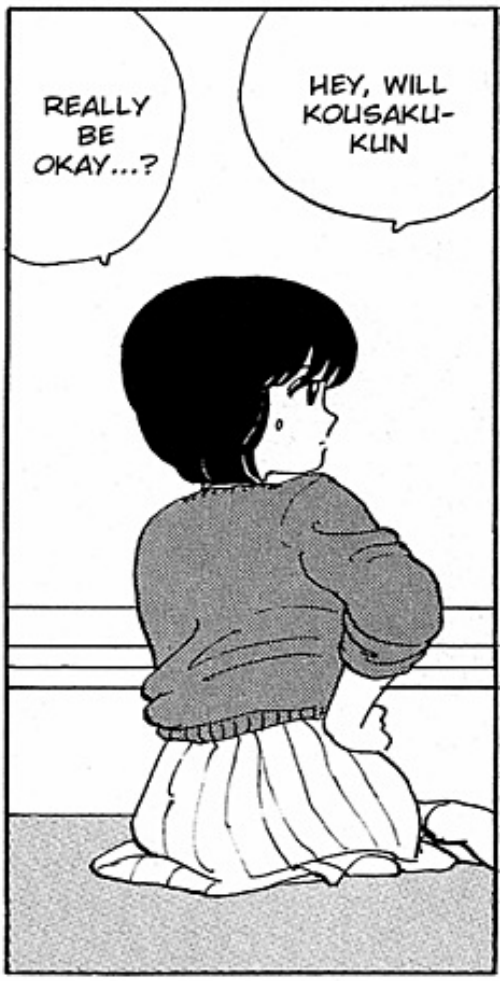
Is this The Three Stooges?

HEY! WHO ARE YOU CALLING AN INCUBUS!?
THAT'S HOW IT IS, SO I'LL SEE YOU AT SCHOOL!

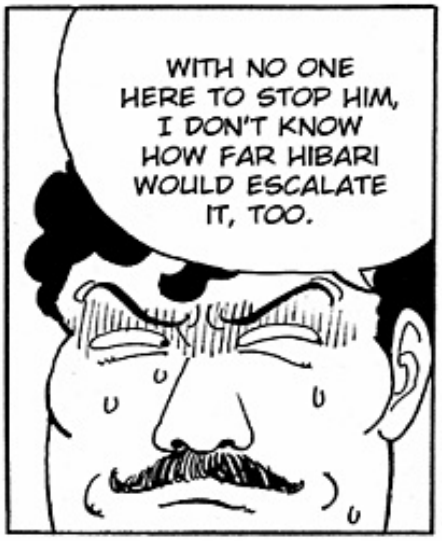
AT ANY RATE, I'M A MAN KNOWN AS RATIONAL SAKAMOTO
AND COMMON-SENSE SAKA-MOTO!

SO THERE'S NO WAY THAT I'LL GIVE IN TO THE TEMPTATIONS OF AN
Glance
INCUBUS!


HE'LL BE FINE. KOUSAKU-KUN'S SURPRISINGLY RELIABLE.
NO WAY! HE'S SURPRISINGLY UNRELIABLE!

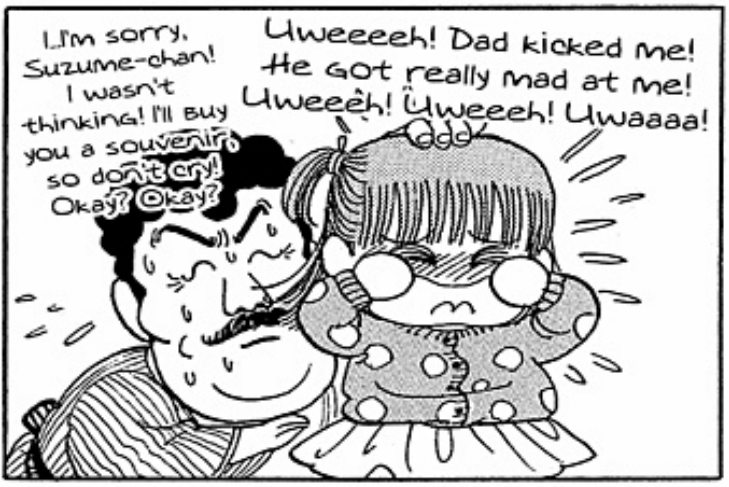

HEY, WILL KOUSAKU-KUN
REALLY BE OKAY...?

AND EVEN KOUSAKU-KUN
MIGHT GIVE IN TO TEMPTATION.


WITH NO ONE HERE TO STOP HIM, I DON'T KNOW HOW FAR HIBARI WOULD ESCALATE IT, TOO.

だあっ!
IT'D BE FUNNY!

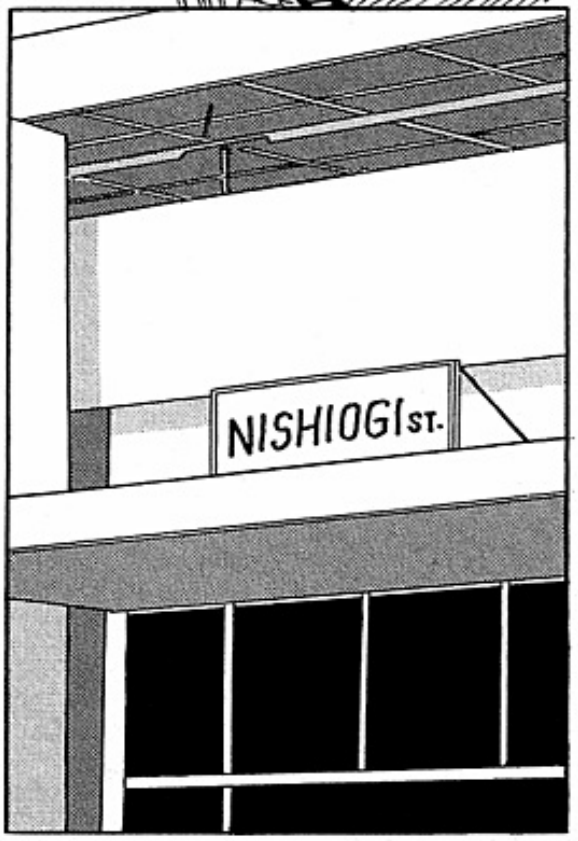
IF THAT HAPP-ENED...


I...I'm sorry, Suzume-chan! I wasn't thinking! I'll buy you a souvenir, so don't cry! Okay? Okay?
Uweeeeh! Dad kicked me! He got really mad at me! Uweeeh! Uweeeh! Uwaaaa!

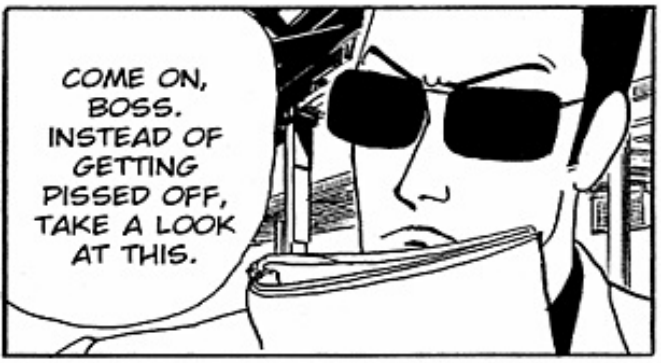
HOW WOULD THAT BE FUNNY!?
ドカ!

A GROUP RETREAT! THIS IS GREAT!
I-I'LL GET TO RIDE ON THE TRAIN, AND EVEN A BULLET TRAIN!
Oh! Ho!
Unbaba! Unba!
Hohoho!
STOMP
STOMP

I-I-I'M SO STOKED!
A TRIP! A TRIP!
Oh ho!
Eh ho!

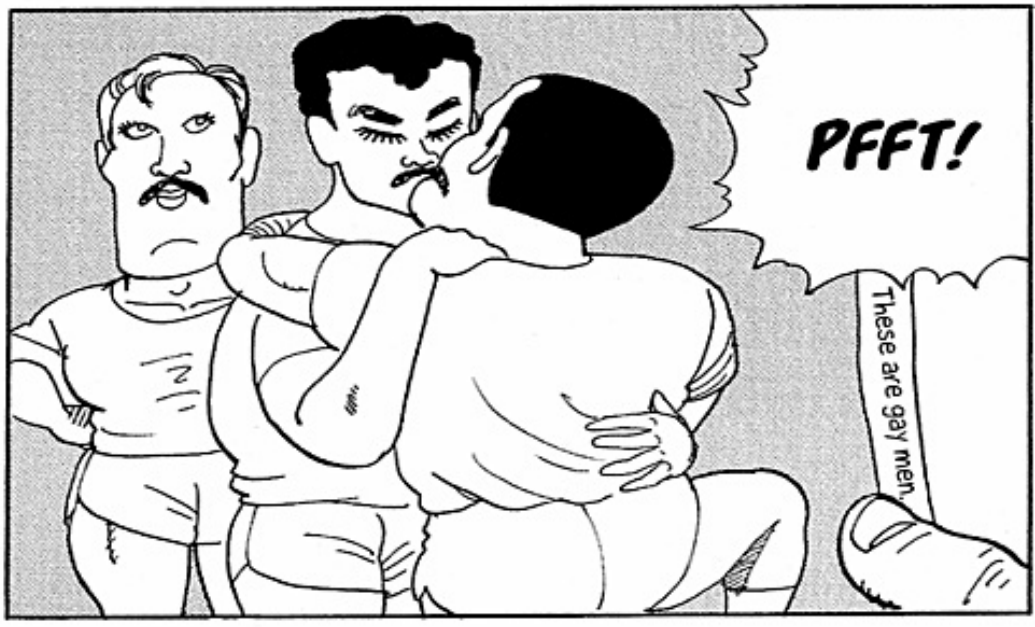

NISHIOGI ST.

Irritated
WHERE THE HELL IS THAT TRAIN?


COME ON, BOSS. INSTEAD OF GETTING PISSED OFF, TAKE A LOOK AT THIS.

SEIJI!! DON'T BOTHER THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE AN HONEST LIVING!!

Urrrgh!
APPARENTLY, IT'S NATURAL IN AMERICA NOWADAYS FOR TWO MEN TO LOVE EACH OTHER. ISN'T THAT SOMETHING ELSE?

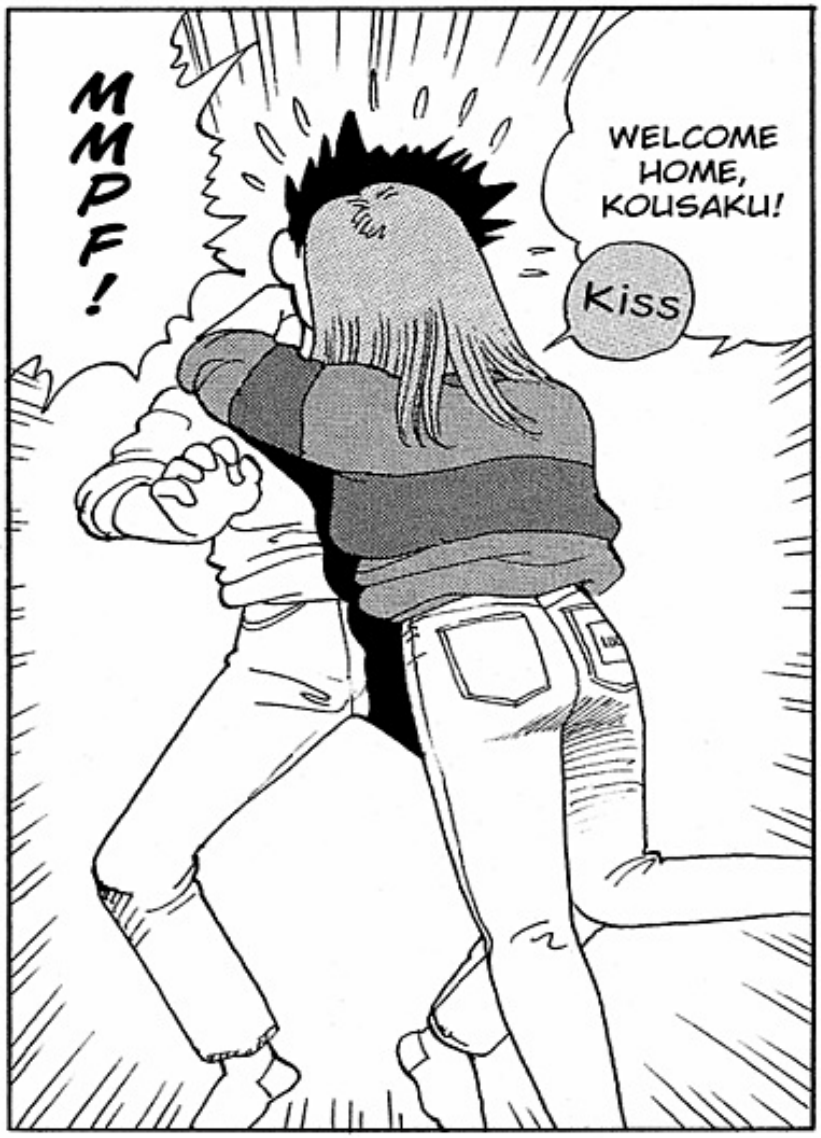

PFFT!
These are gay men.

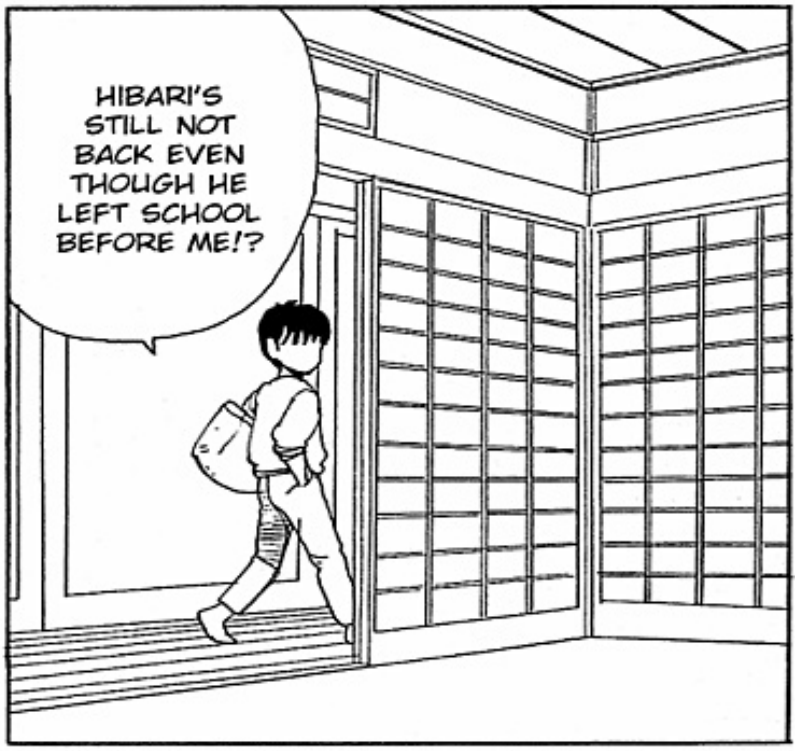
really going to be okay?
Are Hibari and Kousaku-kun

YOU BASTARD! YOU'VE MADE ME EVEN MORE WORRIED AFTER SHOWING ME SOMETHING WEIRD!
MMPF!
SEIJI!
Ex-cited
Smile
Y-YES, BOSS!?
INSTEAD OF GOING ON THE TRIP, YOU'RE GONNA BE KEEPING AN EYE ON HIBARI AND KOUSAKU-KUN! SO GO BACK TO THE HOUSE!!

...I GUESS THEY'RE ALL GONE.

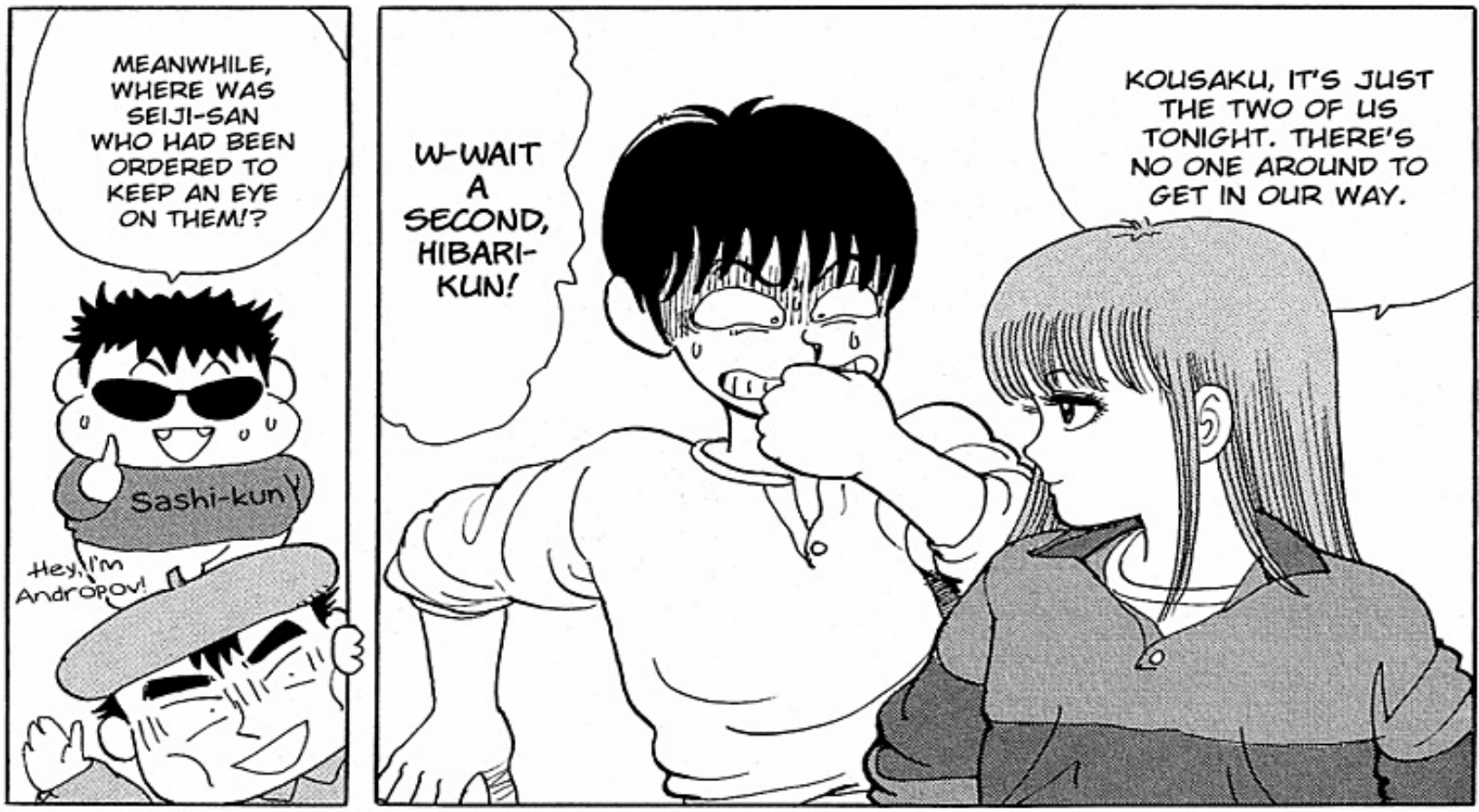
I'M BACK!
Silence

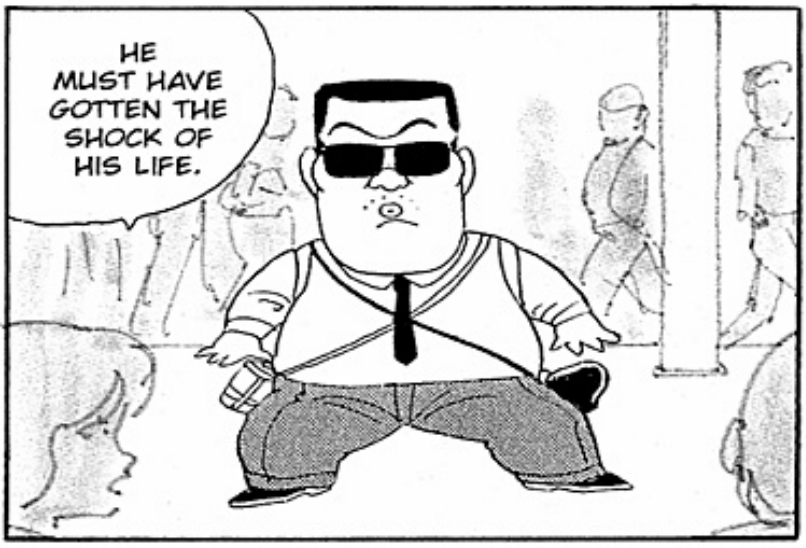

MMPF!
WELCOME HOME, KOUSAKU!
Kiss

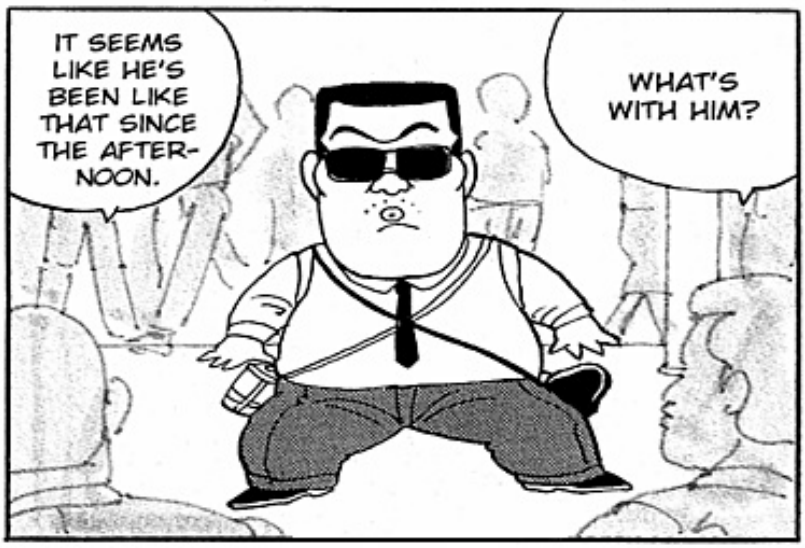

HIBARI'S STILL NOT BACK EVEN THOUGH HE LEFT SCHOOL BEFORE ME!?

WHOA!

Click
CLICK CLACK
I LOST THE PAPER WITH THE DIREC-TIONS...
NOW THEN, THE OOZORA GROUP...
IT'S TOUGH BEING A HITMAN... TOHOHOHO...
BUT IT'S NOT LIKE I CAN JUST GO UP TO A COP AND ASK HOW TO GET THERE. WHAT A HEADACHE.


MEANWHILE, WHERE WAS SEIJI-SAN WHO HAD BEEN ORDERED TO KEEP AN EYE ON THEM!?
Sashi-kun
Hey, I'm Andropov!
W-WAIT A SECOND, HIBARI-KUN!
KOUSAKU, IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US TONIGHT. THERE'S NO ONE AROUND TO GET IN OUR WAY.

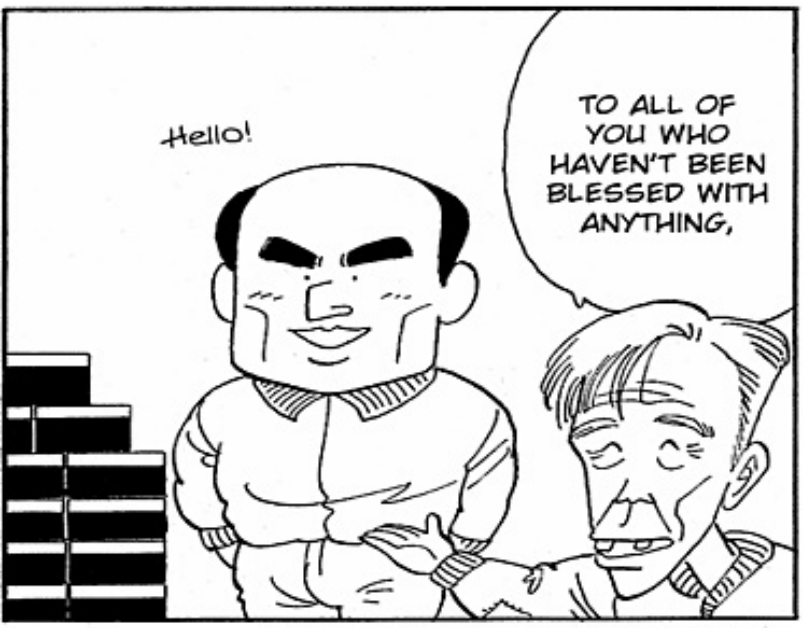


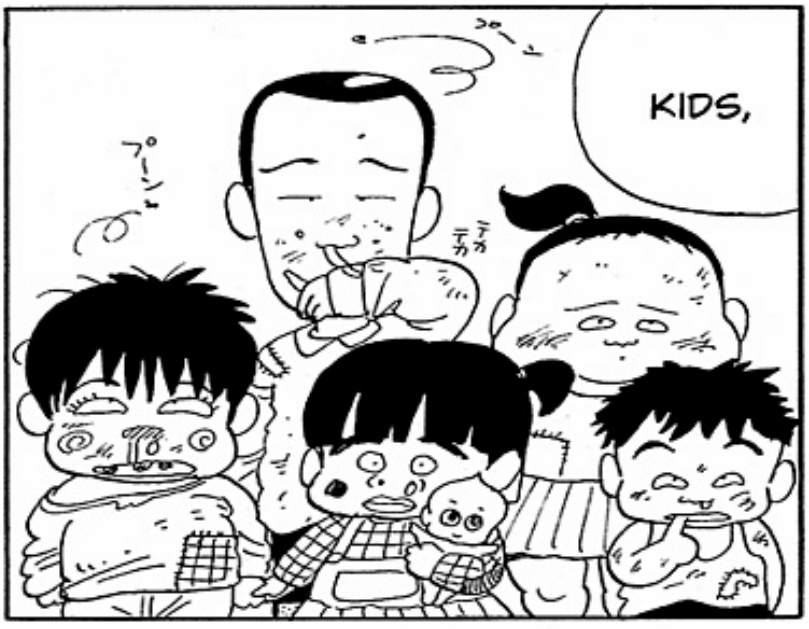


STOP!! HIBARI-KUN!

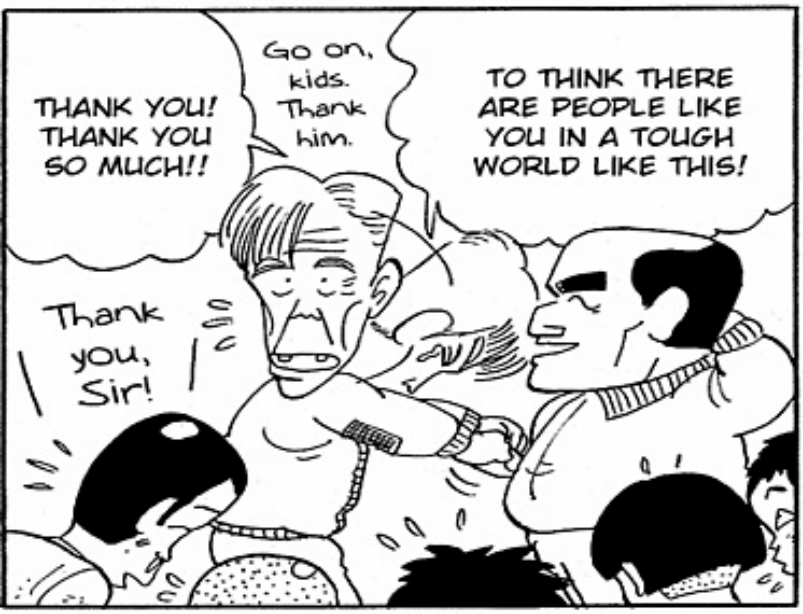
SEE THE CONCLUSION NEXT TIME!

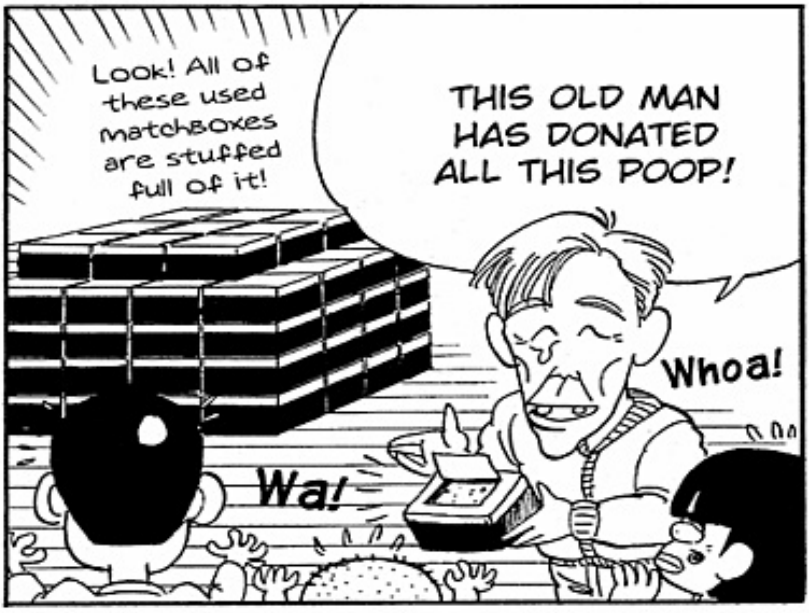
HELLO,
HITMAN
(PART 2)

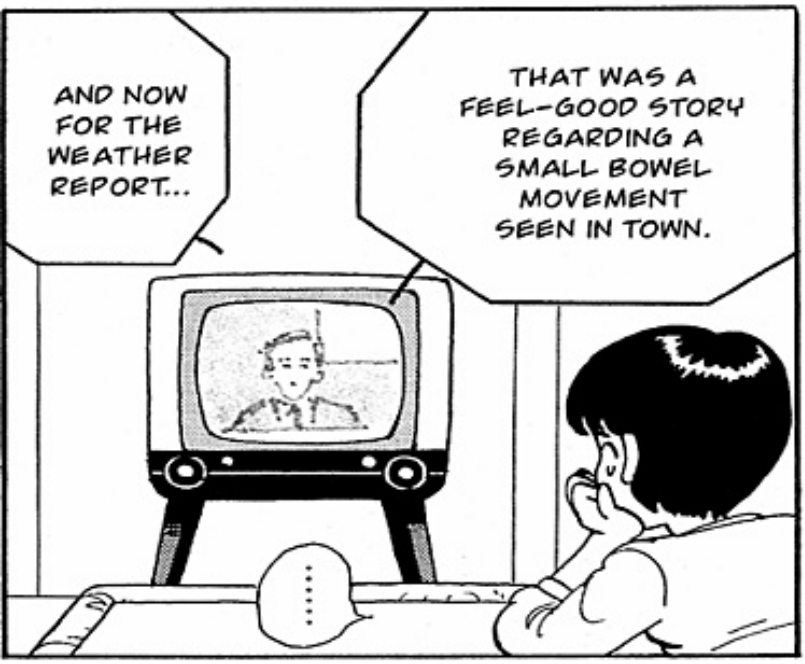




You're sporting a trendy hairstyle, old man.

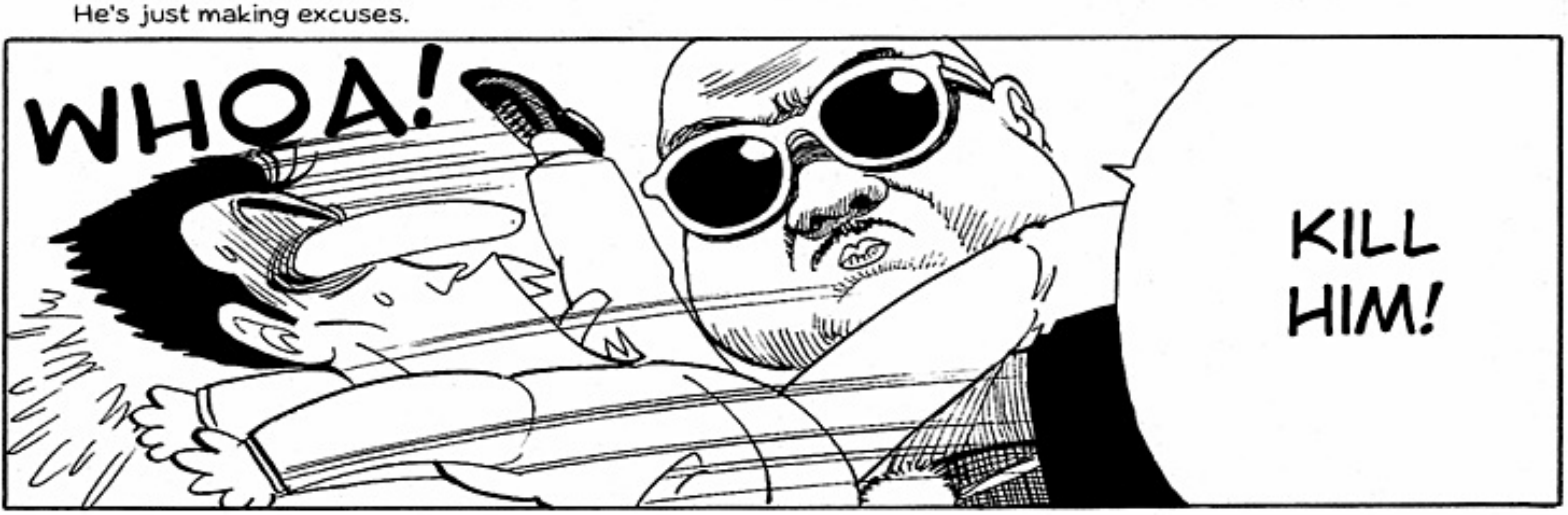


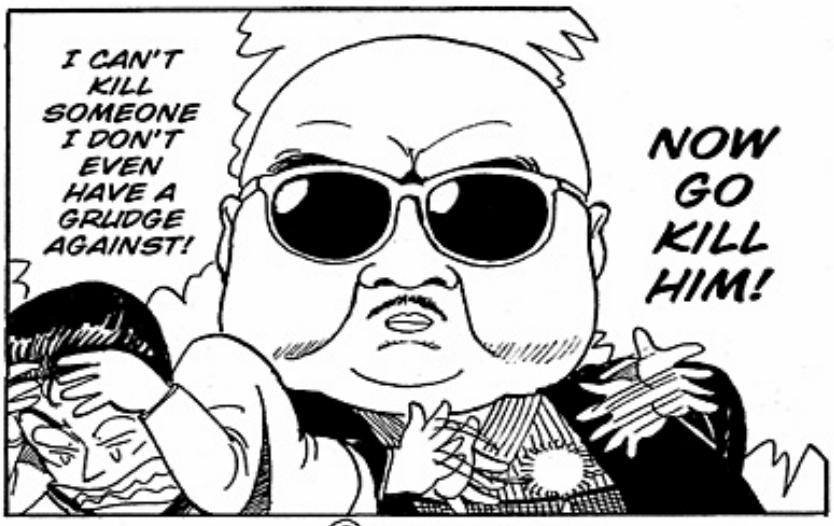


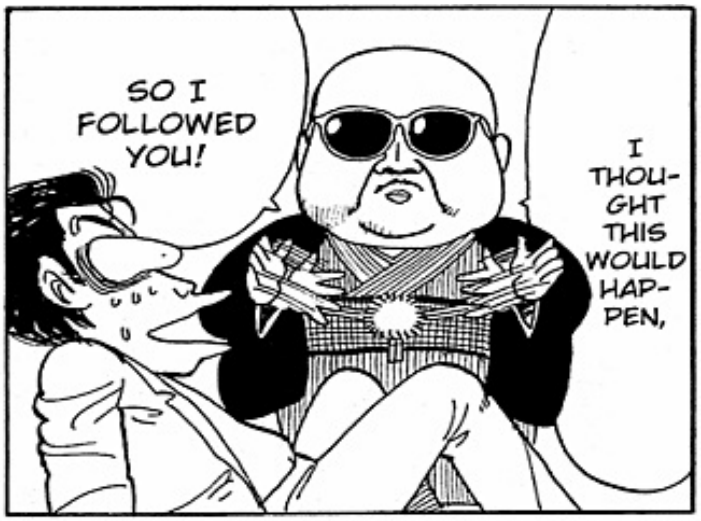


WHY DON'T YOU TAKE ONE BEFORE WE EAT TOO, KOUSAKU?
L... LISTEN, HIBARI-KUN,
AHHH... THAT WAS A NICE BATH.
ガ
ニ!
I SAID NO! PUT ON SOME CLOTHES!
WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL? IT'S JUST YOU AND ME!
DON'T WANDER AROUND DRESSED LIKE THAT JUST BECAUSE NO ONE ELSE IS HERE.
ぱたたたたた
DON'T DO THAT ON PUR-POSE!
あたぁ
THERE WE GO.
FINE.
Panties
Pull

He's just making excuses.







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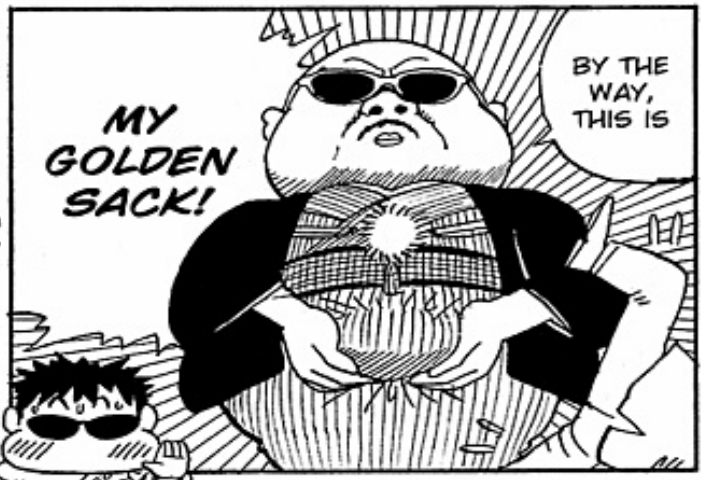
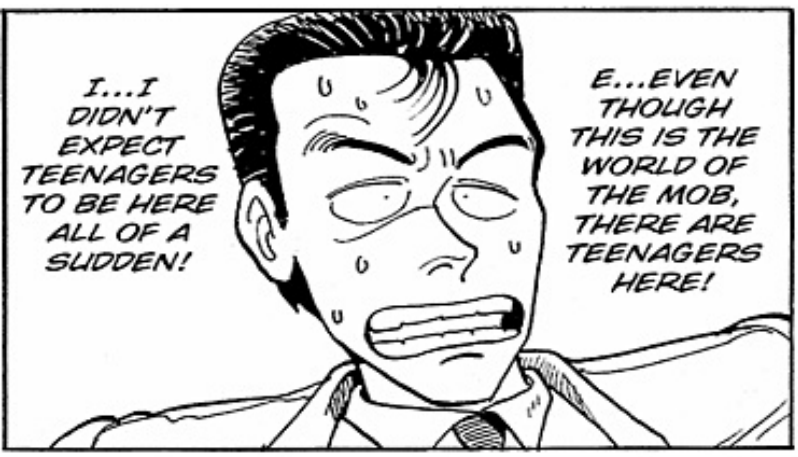
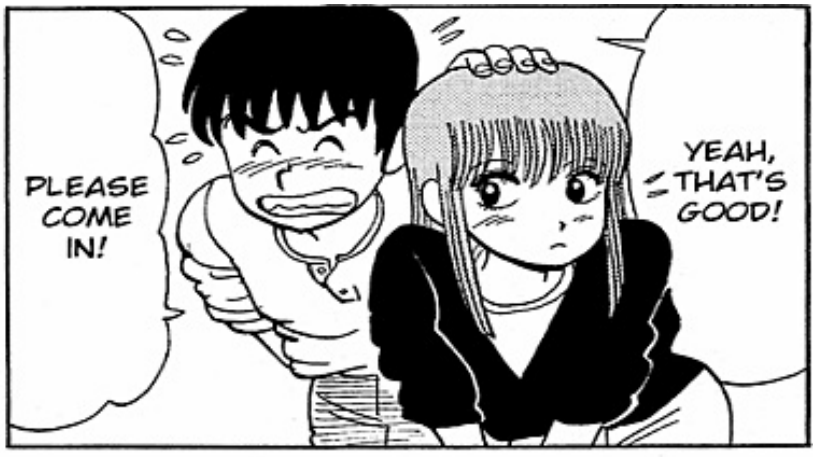
TL note: Norio Nishikawa is a comedian and actor.

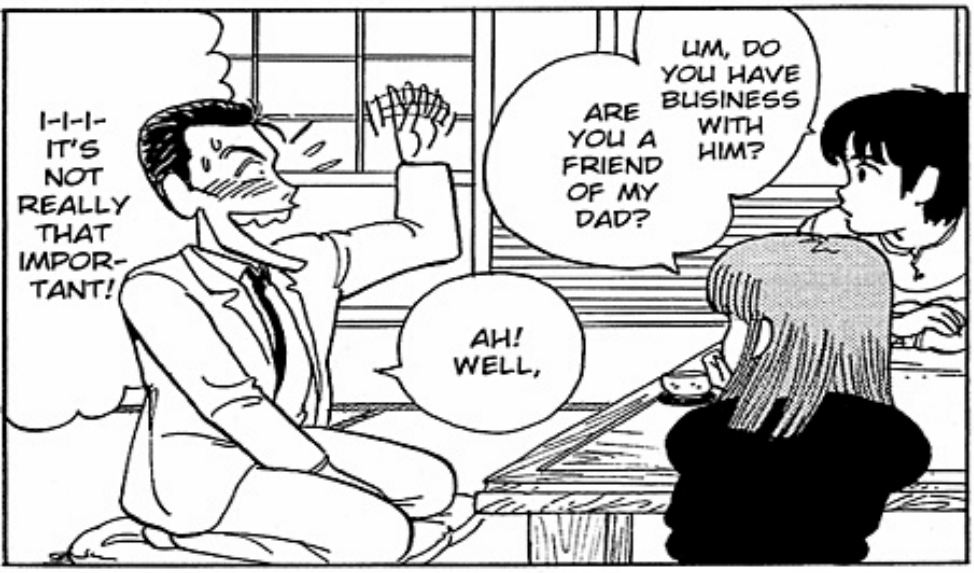


Hi! I'm Candy from the Great Japan Raunchy Party.

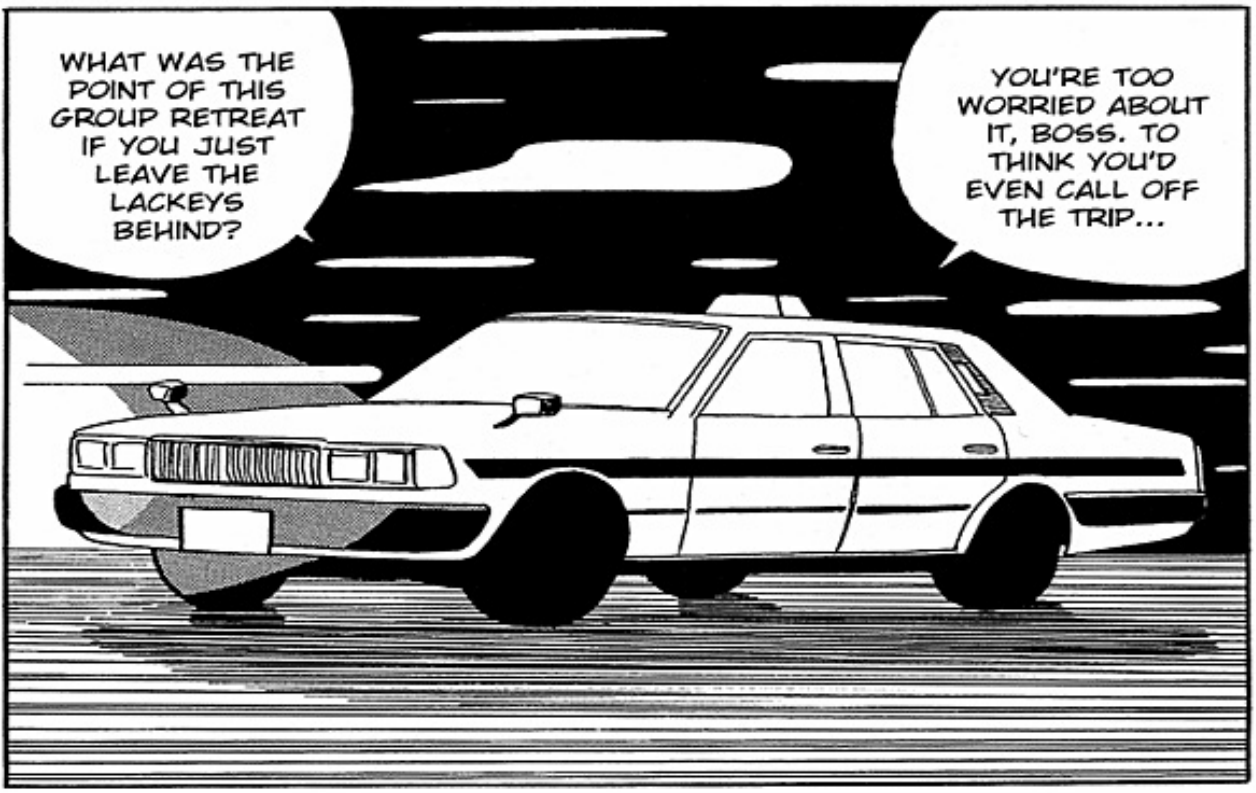
FALL
HELLO.
EX-
EXCUSE
ME!
I'm not
apologizing!
UH,
U-U-U-
UM...
...WHO
ARE
YOU?
DON'T
ANSWER
THE DOOR
DRESSED
LIKE THAT!


I...I DIDN'T EXPECT TEENAGERS TO BE HERE ALL OF A SUDDEN!
E...EVEN THOUGH THIS IS THE WORLD OF THE MOB, THERE ARE TEENAGERS HERE!

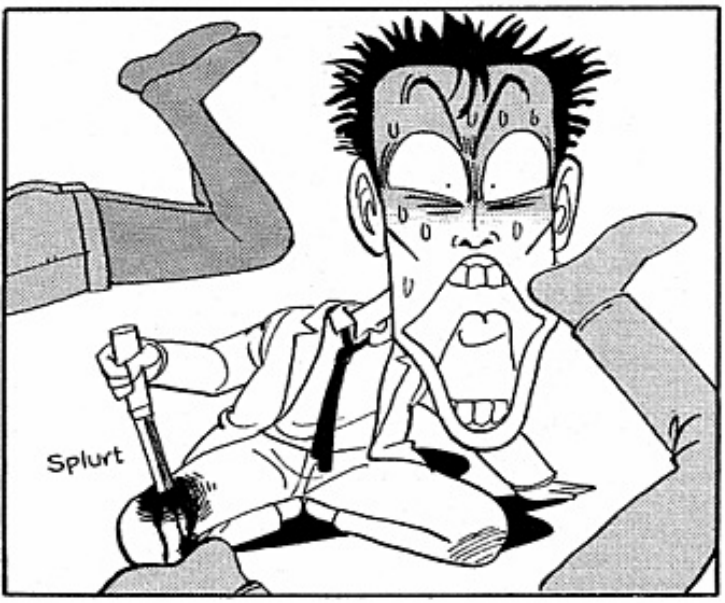

PLEASE COME IN!
YEAH, THAT'S GOOD!


I-I-I-IT'S NOT REALLY THAT IMPOR-TANT!
AH! WELL,
ARE YOU A FRIEND OF MY DAD?
UM, DO YOU HAVE BUSINESS WITH HIM?

SO THE BOSS ISN'T HERE?
I SEE... A...A GROUP RE-TREAT.
Hello, I'm Ian the Fool.
Good evening. I'm Ian Mitchell.


WHAT WAS THE POINT OF THIS GROUP RETREAT IF YOU JUST LEAVE THE LACKEYS BEHIND?
YOU'RE TOO WORRIED ABOUT IT, BOSS. TO THINK YOU'D EVEN CALL OFF THE TRIP...

I GUESS I'LL JUST WAIT FOR HIM.
Man...Hahaha! What should I do? You've got me there! Hahaha!



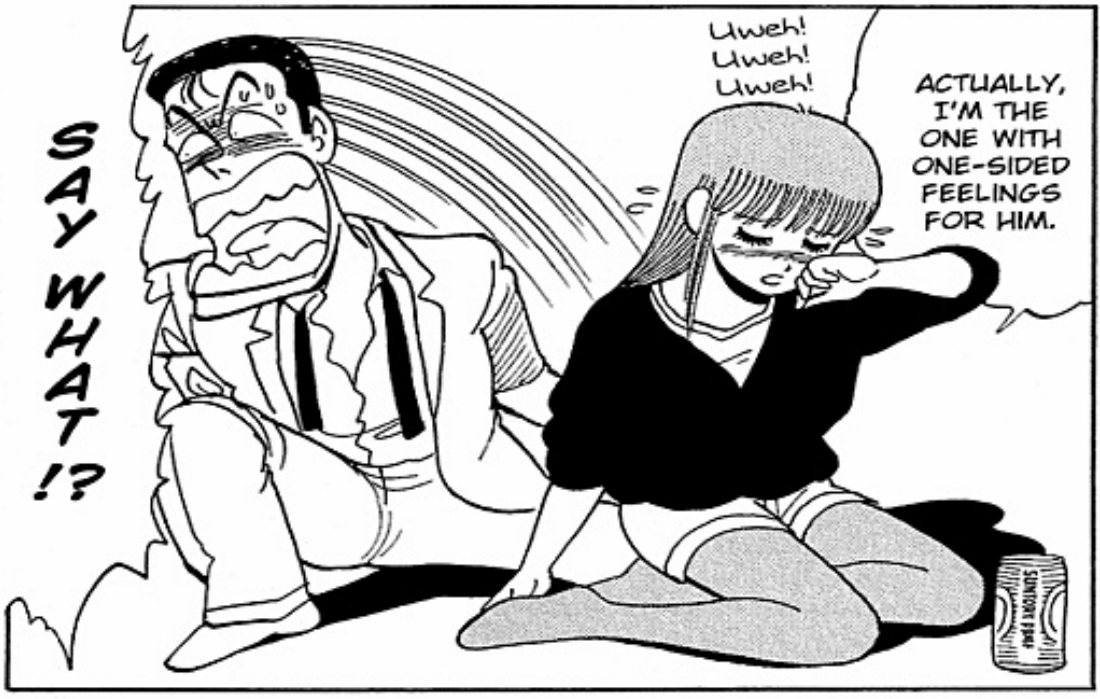
↑ Dis is a dagger. (Kyoto accent)

ガ
It's so hot! I'M gonna strip!
Keh keh keh!
UWEEEE! OH BOY! I'M SMASHED!
A PIS-TO...
HUH?
Tipsy...
NO ONE'S GONNA GET THAT.
MITSU-SABUROU TEPPOU.
MITSUSABU
Readers will hate you if you throw in something only a few will get in a boy's magazine.
More people know about Sadao Mori.
KOTOBUKI STUDIO
IT'S NOTHING! T-T-TH... THIS IS JUST A...
WAAA!
IT LOO-KED LIKE A PIS...
I TOTALLY SAW THAT. JUST WHAT DO YOU GOT THERE?

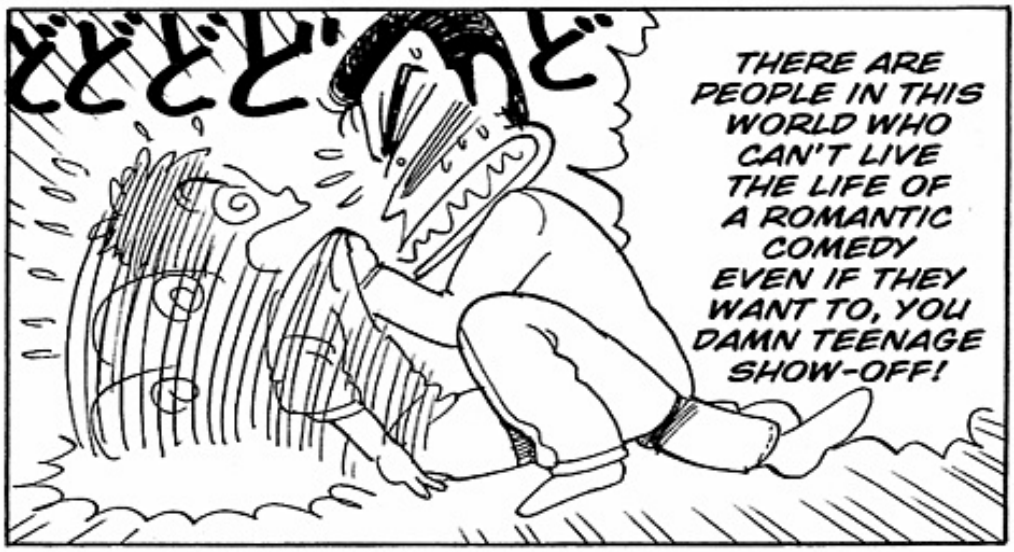
TL notes: Mitsusaburou Teppou was a singer of the Kawachi ondo style of folk music. "Teppou" means "gun". Sadao Mori was the president of the Kyoto Football Association.

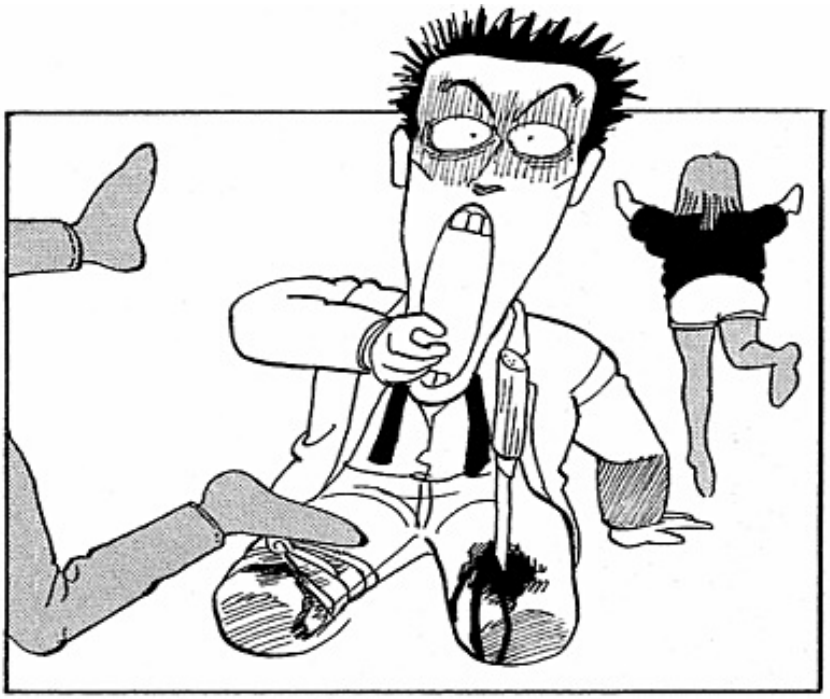
DON'T TRY TO HIDE IT! MAN! I'M SO JEALOUS! YOU'RE ONLY YOUNG ONCE, KID! DRINK UP! COME ON!
WE... WE'RE NOT LIKE THAT!
WELL, WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL!? LEAVING THAT ASIDE, WHAT ARE YOU TWO TO EACH OTHER? ARE YOU GOING OUT!? WELL!?

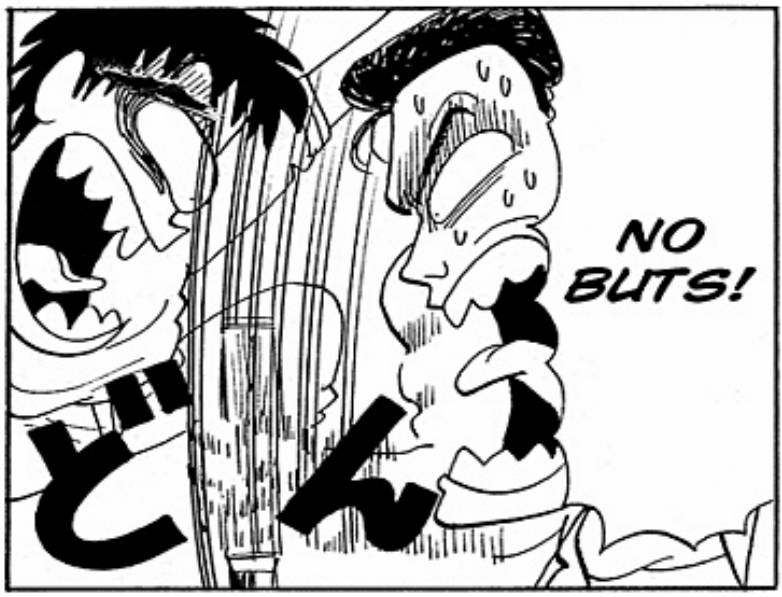
WHAT THE HELL, KID!? WHAT'S THERE TO COMPLAIN ABOUT A CUTE GIRL LIKE HER FALLING FOR YOU!? WELL!!?


SAY WHAT!?
Uweh! Uweh! Uweh!
ACTUALLY, I'M THE ONE WITH ONE-SIDED FEELINGS FOR HIM.

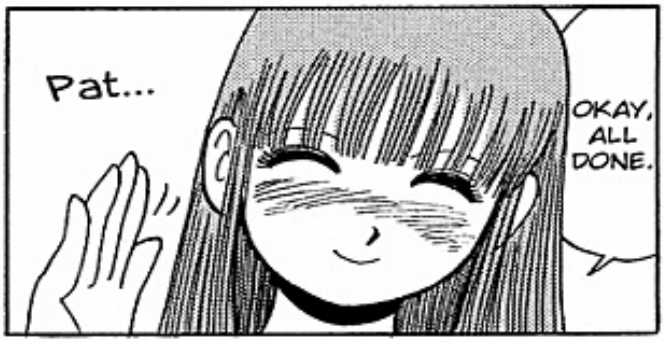
B-BUT HIBARI-KUN IS...

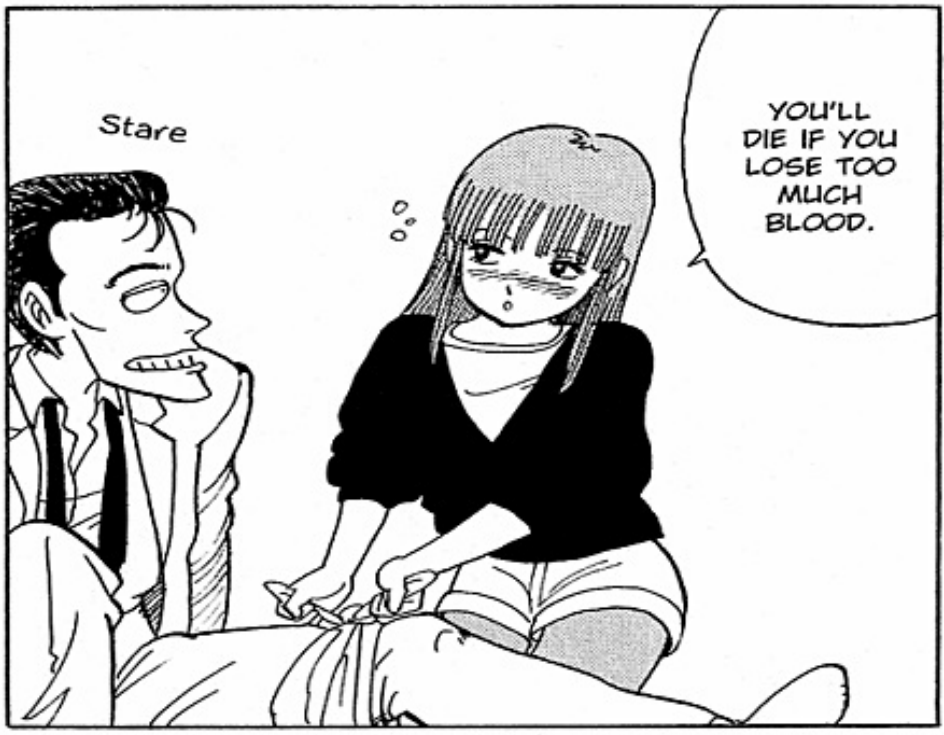

どどどどどど
THERE ARE PEOPLE IN THIS WORLD WHO CAN'T LIVE THE LIFE OF A ROMANTIC COMEDY EVEN IF THEY WANT TO, YOU DAMN TEENAGE SHOW-OFF!

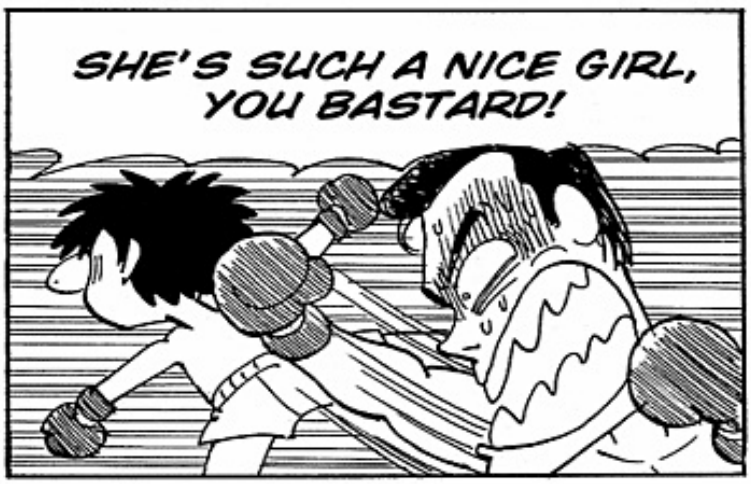


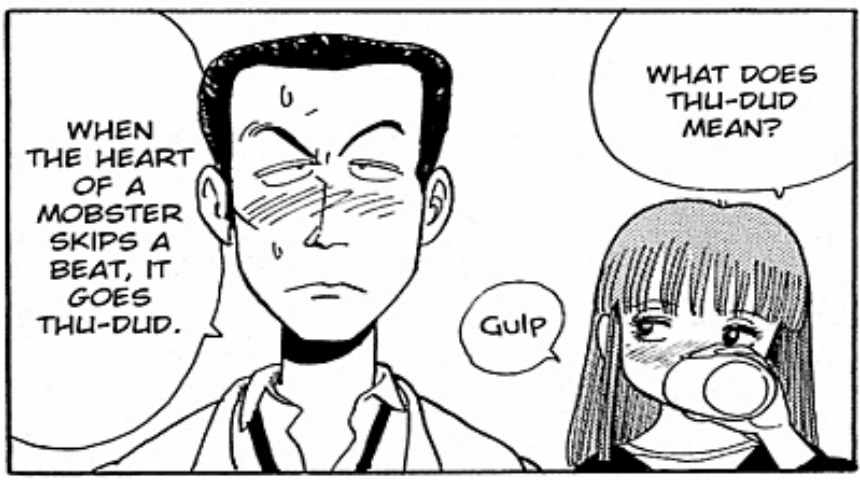


Is this guy a moron?

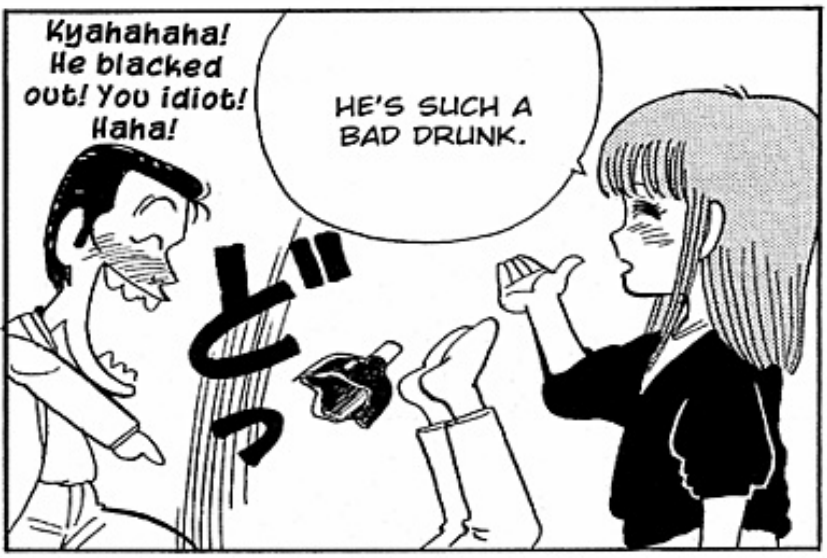




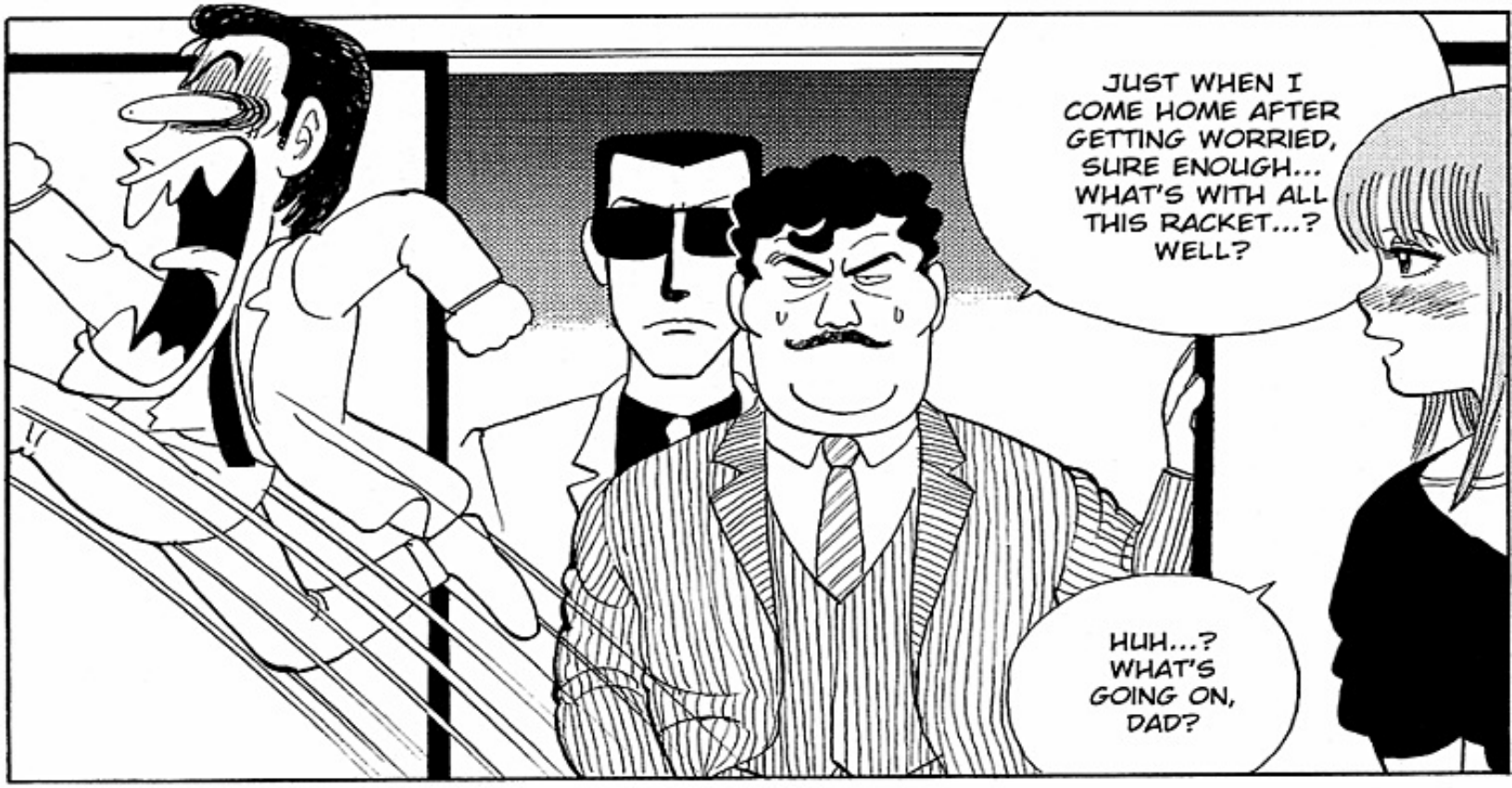




OH! WHAT THE HELL? THIS GUY'S EYES ARE ALL GLAZED OVER.
Hic
YOU MORON! YOU DUN KNOW NUFFIN'.

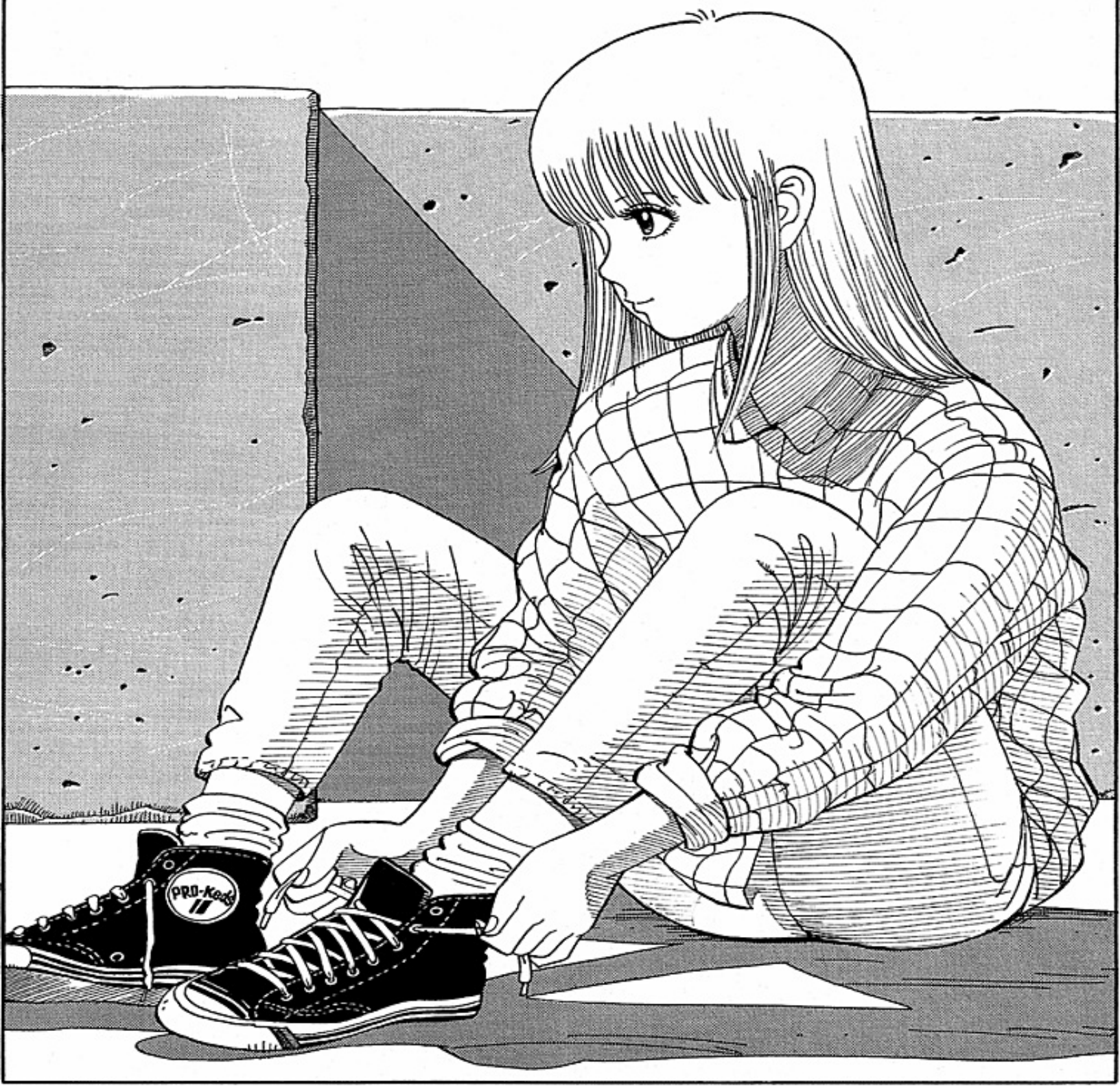

Kyahahaha! He blacked out! You idiot! Haha!
HE'S SUCH A BAD DRUNK.

YOU SEE, HIBARI-KUN IS ACTUALLY A GU...


JUST WHEN I COME HOME AFTER GETTING WORRIED, SURE ENOUGH... WHAT'S WITH ALL THIS RACKET...? WELL?
HUH...? WHAT'S GOING ON, DAD?

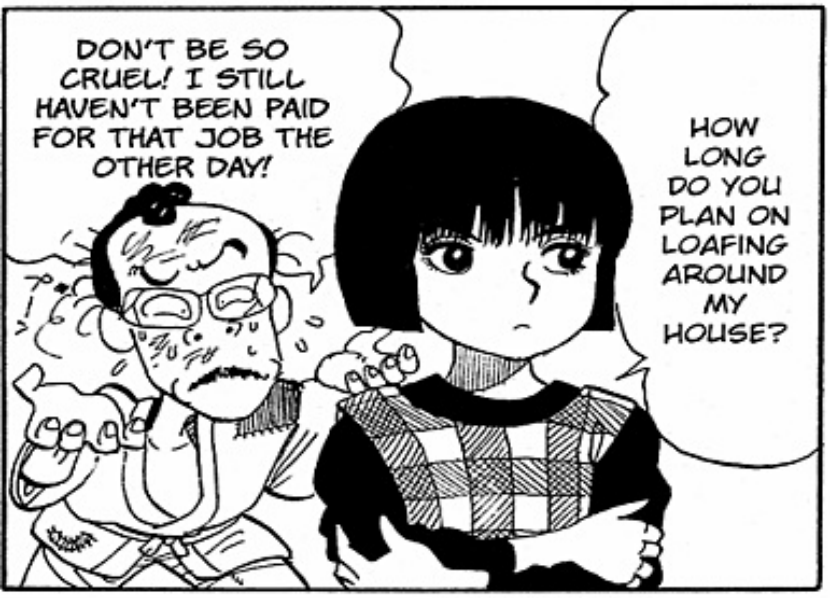
Shake
Shake
Shake
Shake
Shake
Shake
WHO ARE YOU?
Uwee...
HEY, THERE'S SOME GUY HERE FOR YOU, DAD.
Twitch!
SIR?
ANYONE HOME? THE STATION IS ABOUT TO CLOSE.
HELLO ?
SOMETHING REALLY DEVASTATING MUST HAVE HAPPENED TO HIM.
YOU'VE TAKEN AN INTEREST IN OUR GROUP?
ぎゃあーっ
PLEASE TAKE ME ON AS ONE OF YOUR HENCHMEN! HERE'S MY RESUME!
He was already out.

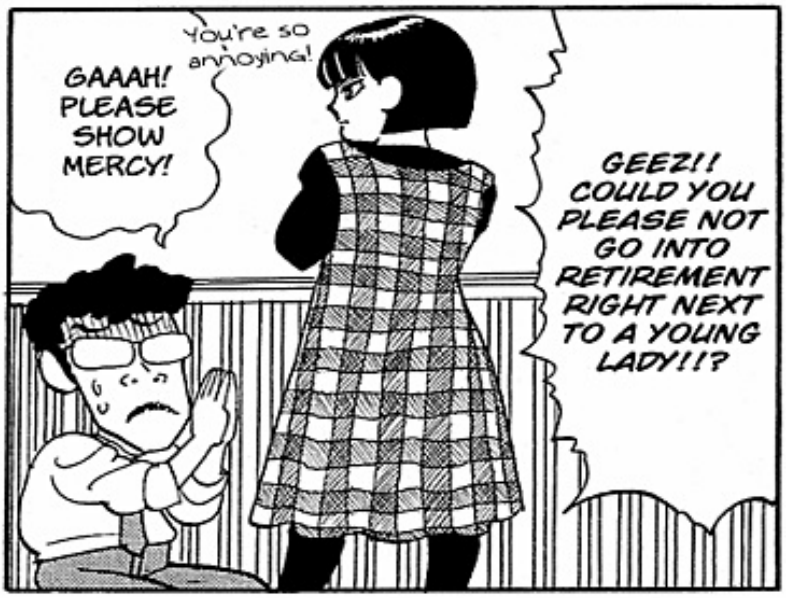
LOVE TRIANGLE!!



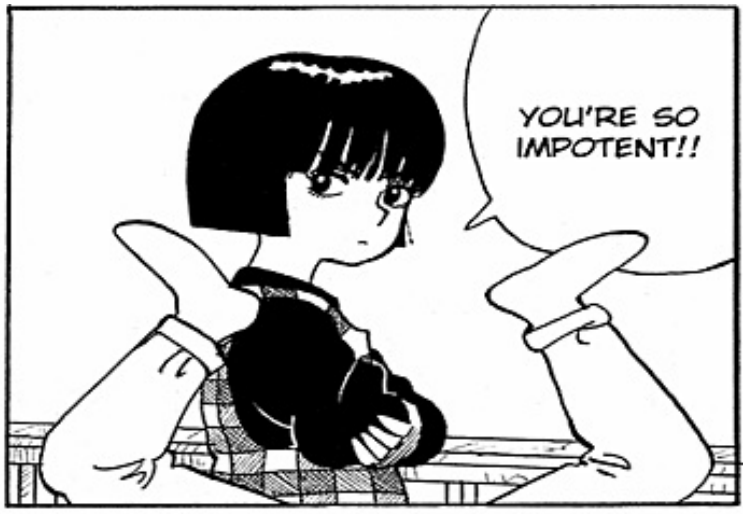
RETIRED
DOING OVER THERE!?

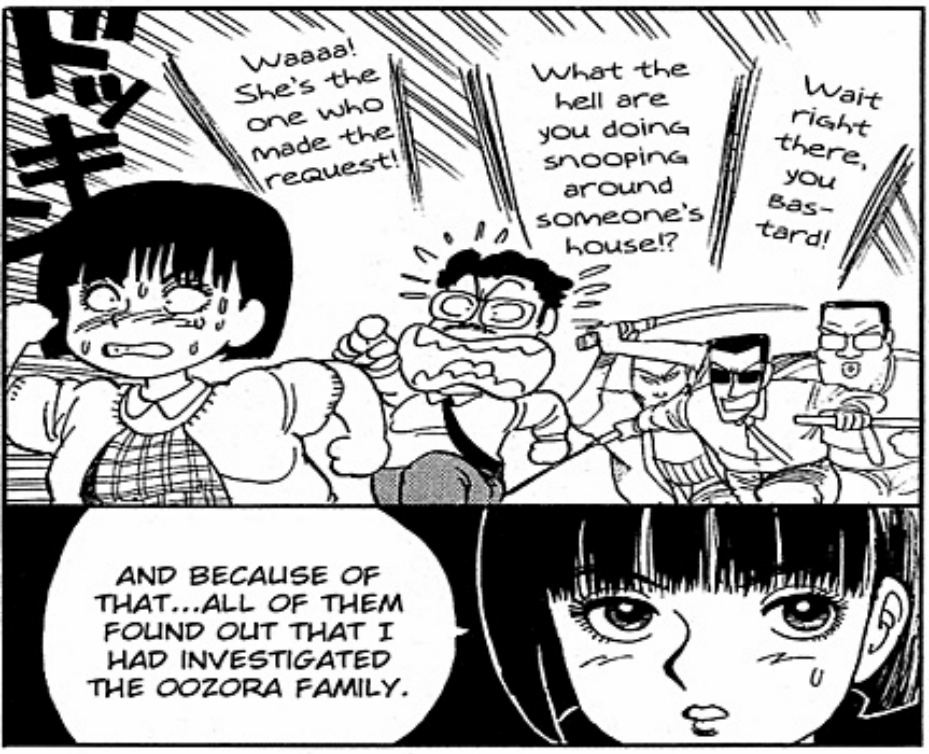
WHAT'S THE PERSON NEXT TO ME
AS AUTUMN GROWS LATE,


DON'T BE SO CRUEL! I STILL HAVEN'T BEEN PAID FOR THAT JOB THE OTHER DAY!
HOW LONG DO YOU PLAN ON LOAFING AROUND MY HOUSE?


GAAAH! PLEASE SHOW MERCY!
You're so annoying!
GEEZ!! COULD YOU PLEASE NOT GO INTO RETIREMENT RIGHT NEXT TO A YOUNG LADY!!?

I...I JUST MADE A LITTLE MISTAKE...!!
I THINK YOU MEANT THIS.
YOU'RE SO IMPUDENT!!
IMPOTENT!!


YOU'RE SO IMPOTENT!!


Waaaa! She's the one who made the request!
What the hell are you doing snooping around someone's house!?
Wait right there, you bas-tard!

AND BECAUSE OF THAT...ALL OF THEM FOUND OUT THAT I HAD INVESTIGATED THE OOZORA FAMILY.

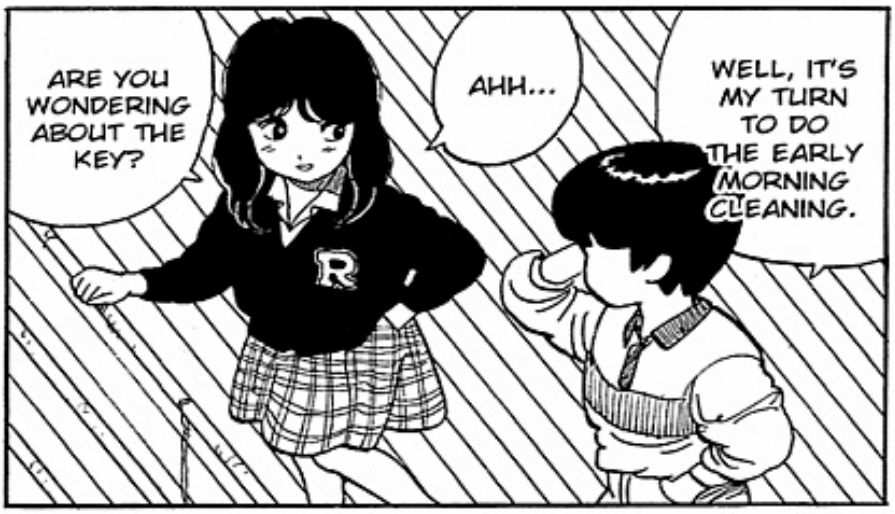
I WASN'T ABLE TO MAKE FRIENDS WITH SAKAMOTO-SAMA.
THANKS TO YOUR CLUMSINESS THE OTHER DAY,

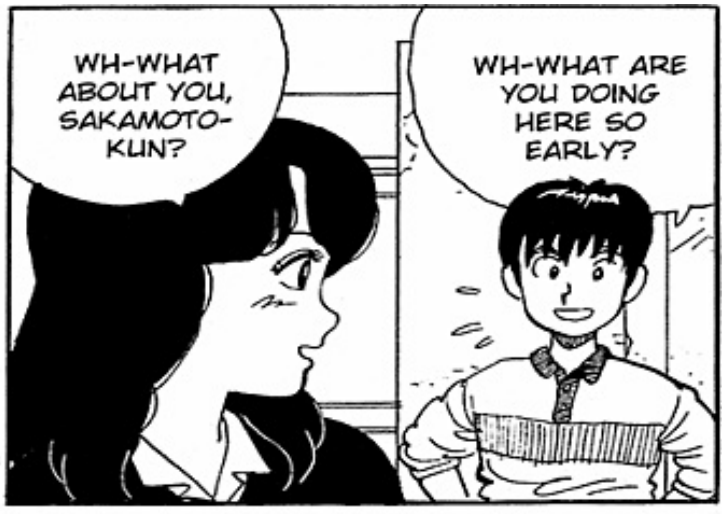
FINE, THEN I'LL GIVE YOU ANOTHER CHANCE.

WHAT ARE YOU GRUMBLING ABOUT OVER THERE!?
It's true that you had looked into that family, so what's the big deal? I just want to be paid. As long as I have money..

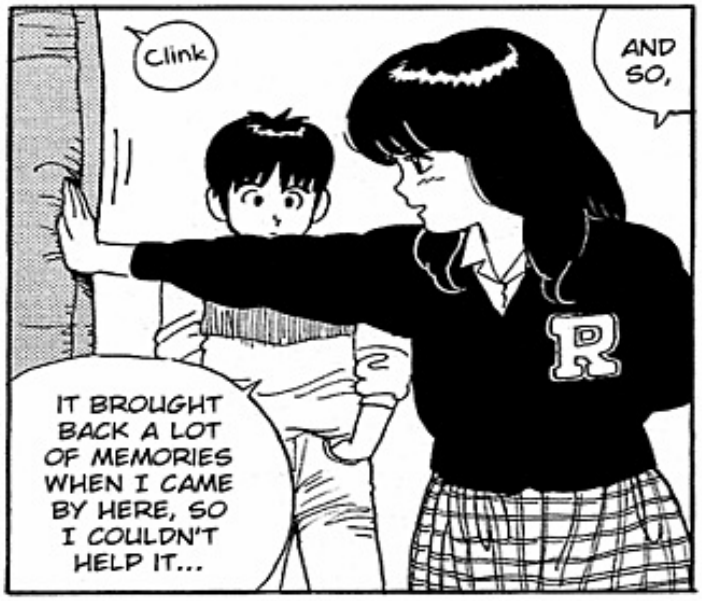
THERE ARE LIMITS TO HOW BAREFACED YOU CAN BE!
My face isn't that bare.
SO YOU WANT PAYMENT FOR THAT...?
ぎうう

I JUST WANT YOU TO HELP ME OUT A LITTLE.
EH HEH! IT'S NOTHING ALL THAT IMPORTANT.
Eh heh
HUH!? AND WHAT WOULD THAT BE!?
IS THERE SOMEONE ALREADY HERE?
IT'S OPEN.
BOXING CLUB
HUH?
RAT-TLE
Chirp ...
Chirp Chirp Chirp
Surprise
RIE-CHAN.
Shock


ARE YOU WONDERING ABOUT THE KEY?
AHH...
WELL, IT'S MY TURN TO DO THE EARLY MORNING CLEANING.

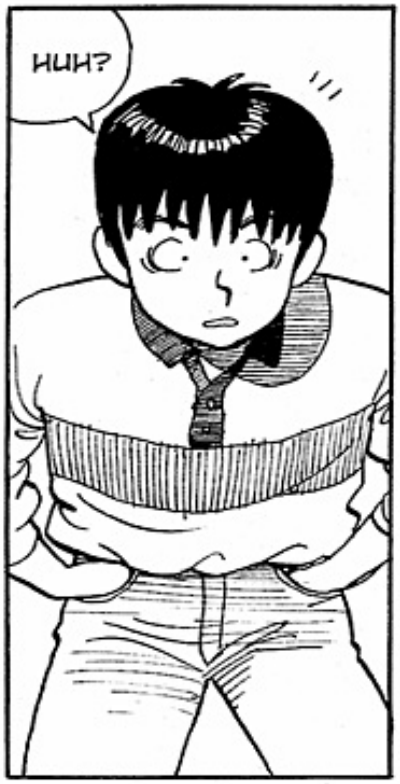

WH-WHAT ABOUT YOU, SAKAMOTO-KUN?
WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE SO EARLY?

SO, SAKAMOTO-KUN,

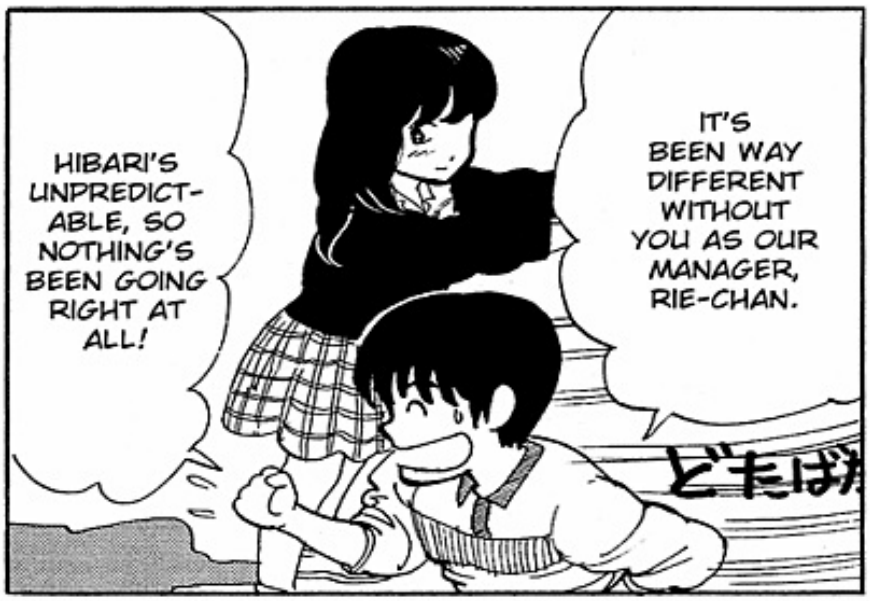

Clink
AND SO,
IT BROUGHT BACK A LOT OF MEMORIES WHEN I CAME BY HERE, SO I COULDN'T HELP IT...

I FORGOT TO GIVE BACK THE KEY TO THE CLUBROOM...
Rattle

Whaa-aaat!?

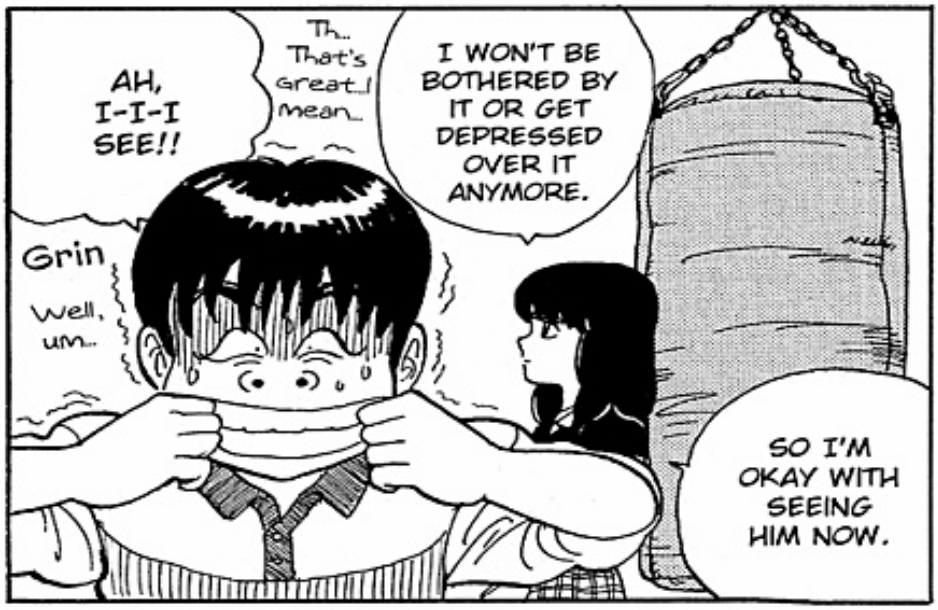

HUH?

WOULD IT BE BAD IF I CAME BACK?


HIBARI'S UNPREDICT-ABLE, SO NOTHING'S BEEN GOING RIGHT AT ALL!
IT'S BEEN WAY DIFFERENT WITHOUT YOU AS OUR MANAGER, RIE-CHAN.
どもば

THEY'D ALL GO, "WHAT!? REALLY!!? ARE YOU SERIOUS!!? ALL RIGHT!"
H-H-H-H-HOW WOULD THAT BE BAD!? YOU'RE MORE THAN WELCOME! EVERYONE WOULD TELL YOU THAT!

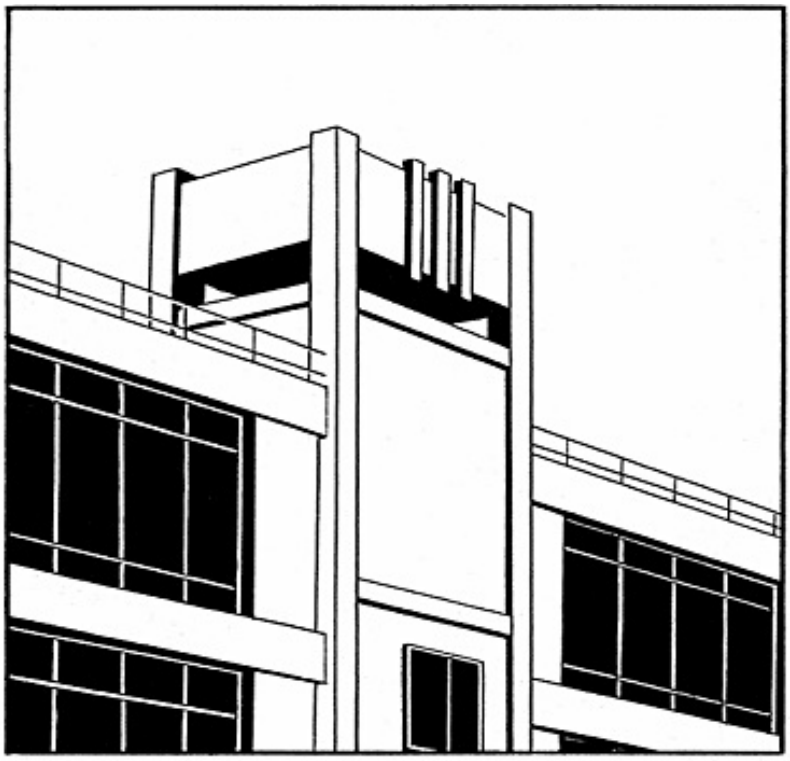
Don't move around!


AH, I-I-I SEE!!
Th... That's great...I mean...
I WON'T BE BOTHERED BY IT OR GET DEPRESSED OVER IT ANYMORE.
Grin
Well, um...
SO I'M OKAY WITH SEEING HIM NOW.

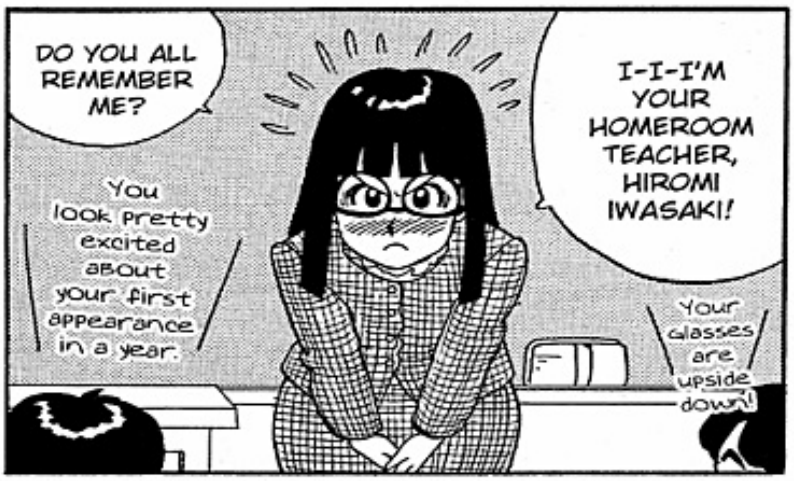
Kou-chan can't help but be overjoyed.

YOU MORON!! WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU GONNA DO IF YOU WORRY ABOUT THAT!? THIS IS YOUR BIG CHANCE!!
BUT EVEN IF SHE'S GOTTEN OVER HER FEELINGS FOR SHIINA... WOULD THAT BE TOO SHALLOW OF ME?
Fu!
NOW'S MY CHANCE!! SAY IT!! JUST SAY IT!! ASK HER OUT!!
W...WOULD YOU GO OUT...
Y-YES!?
RIE-CHAN!
H-HUH!? AH! IT'S NOTHING!
WHAT ARE YOU MUMBLING ABOUT BY YOURSELF?
SAKAMOTO-KUN... YOU'RE FLOATING.
Float
I'm walk-ing on air!!
OKAY.
Giggle
...UM, I MEAN... WOULD YOU HANG OUT WITH ME THIS SUNDAY?

Puff
Puff
Puff
Puff
Puff



WHA!?
Sensei! We're already shooting!

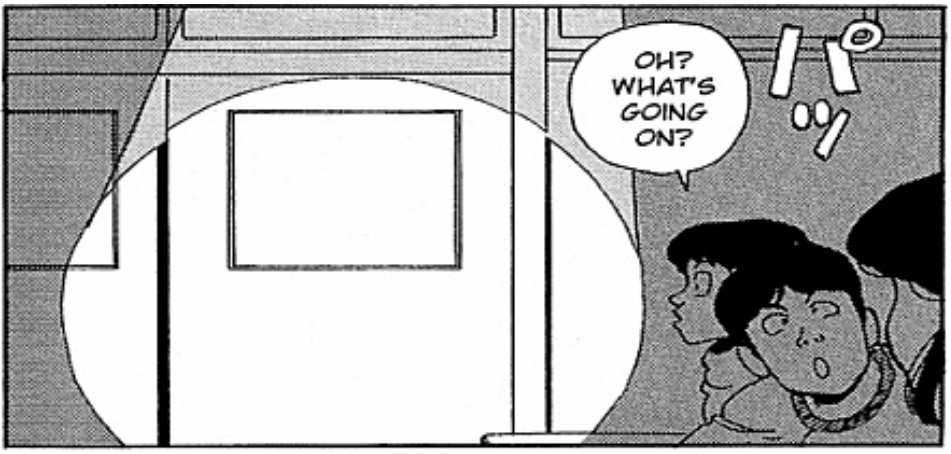

DO YOU ALL REMEMBER ME?
You look pretty excited about your first appearance in a year.
I-I-I'M YOUR HOMEROOM TEACHER, HIROMI IWASAKI!
Your glasses are upside down!

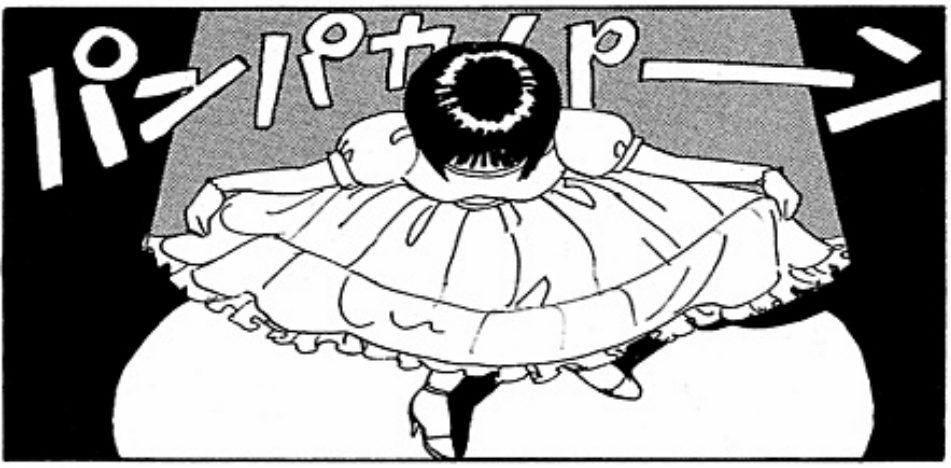
FLUSTERED
Wa!

Sensei! Is it a guy or a girl?
WHAT'S WITH THAT LOOK ON HIS FACE?
You moron! Don't get your hopes up!
Chatter

That's so rare this time of year.
Wow! A transfer student?
Chatter
I got a date with Rie-chan!

TO A NEW FRIEND.
N...NOW THEN, TODAY I'LL BE INTRODUCING ALL OF YOU


OH? WHAT'S GOING ON?
パ


パンパカパーン

Chatter
ALL RIGHT, YOU CAN COME IN!
Ohhhh!
Whoa!

ガたっ!!

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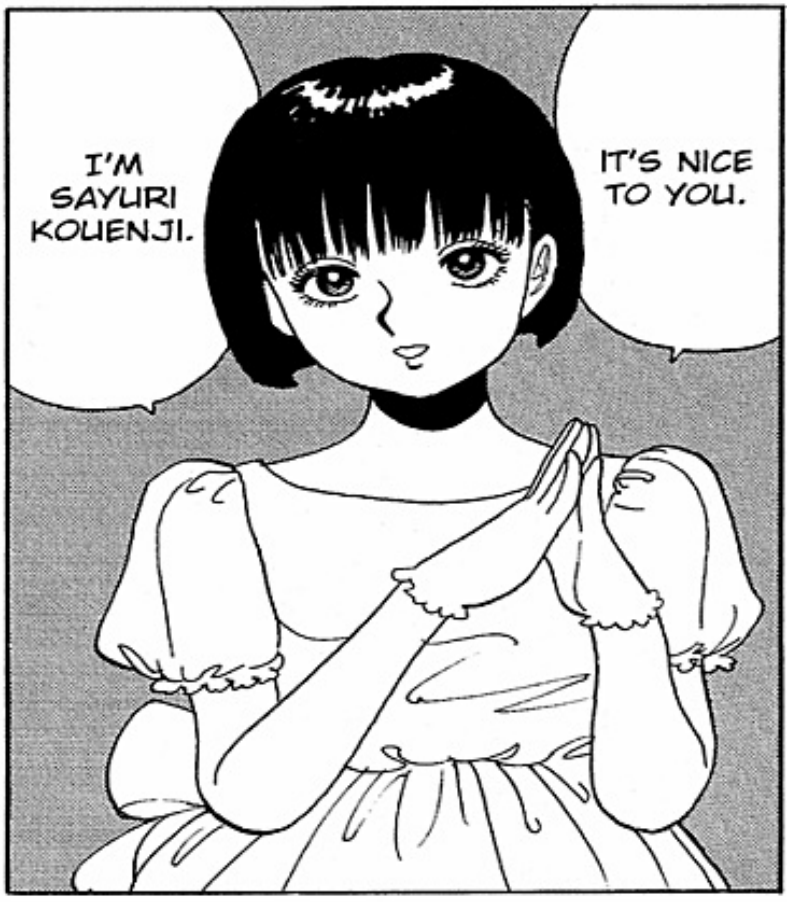
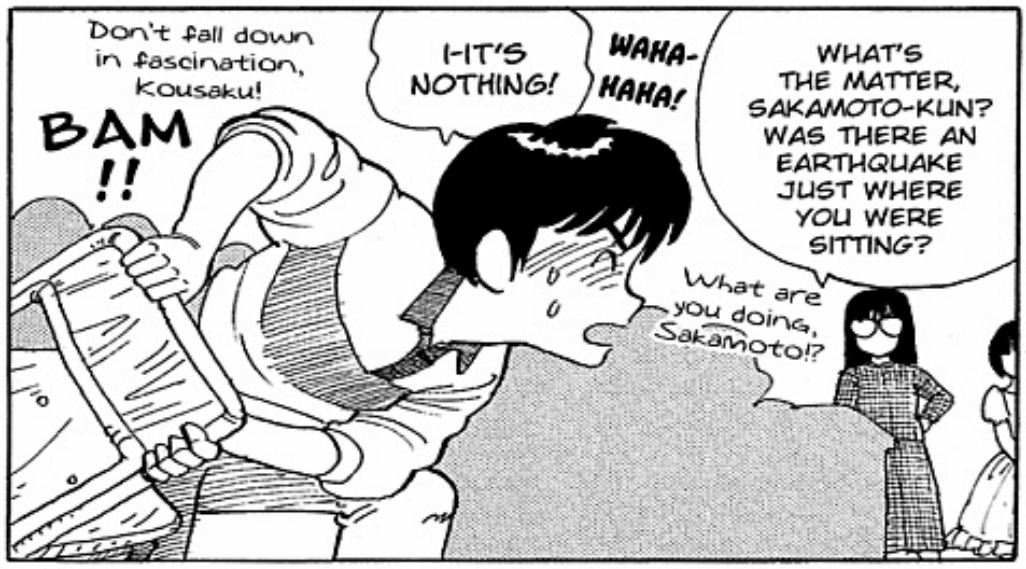
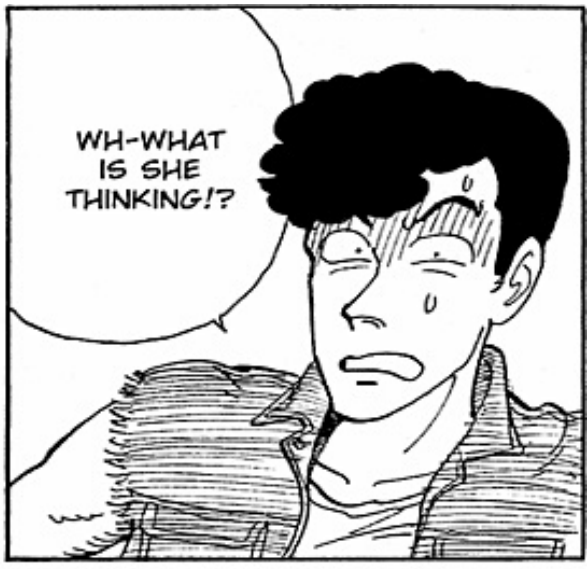

I'M SAYURI KOUENJI.
IT'S NICE TO YOU.

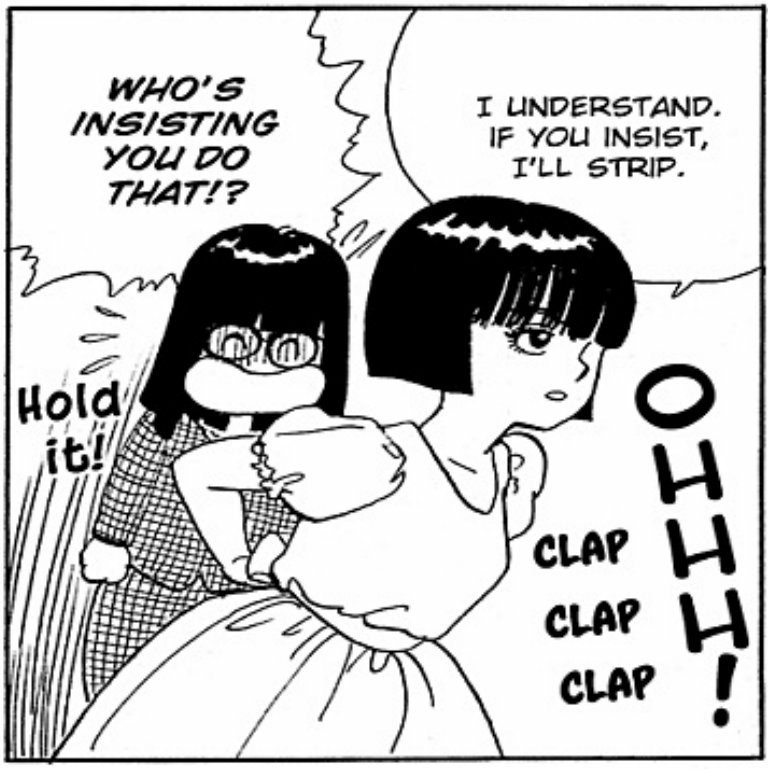

Don't fall down in fascination, Kousaku!
BAM !!
I-IT'S NOTHING!
WAHA-HAHA!
WHAT'S THE MATTER, SAKAMOTO-KUN? WAS THERE AN EARTHQUAKE JUST WHERE YOU WERE SITTING?
What are you doing, Sakamoto!?


WH-WHAT IS SHE THINKING!?

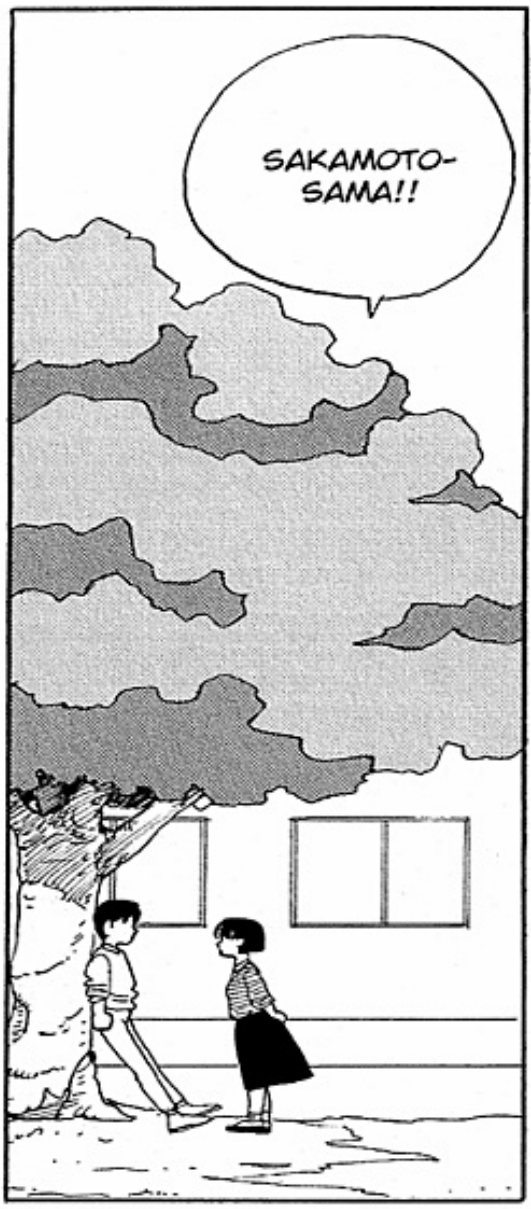
WHAT ARE YOUR BUST, WAIST AND HIP SIZES?
WHO ASKED YOU SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
YES, I'M OFTEN TOLD THAT I LOOK LIKE HIROKO YAKUSHIMARU.
WHAT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY?
I HAVE A QUESTION! WHERE DO YOU LIVE?
DON'T ASK SOMETHING SO OLD SCHOOL, MAN!
DO YOU HAVE A BOY-FRIEND?
M...MAN, SHE'S SO CUTE!

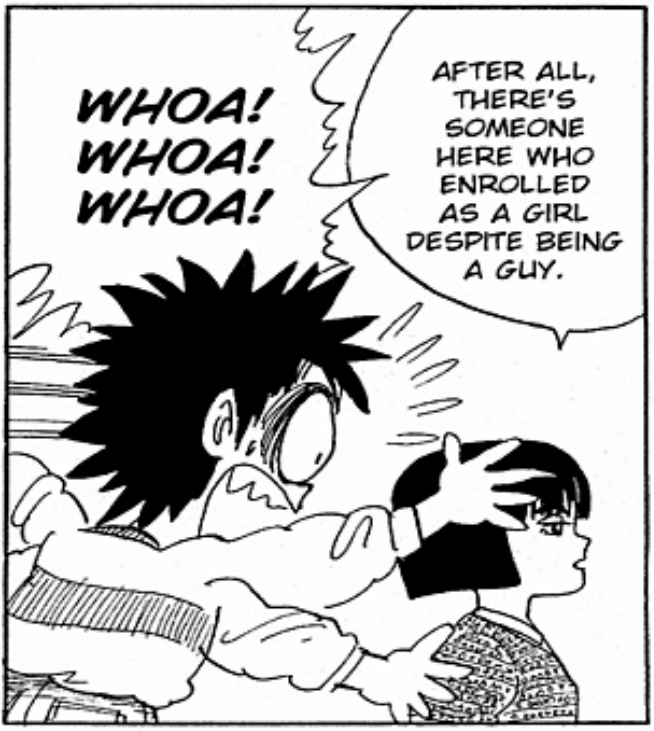
KOUSAKU! WHAT THE HELL IS SHE DOING!?

D-DON'T ASK ME!


WHO'S INSISTING YOU DO THAT!?
I UNDERSTAND. IF YOU INSIST, I'LL STRIP.
Hold it!
CLAP CLAP CLAP
OHHH!

SO HOW CAN YOU TRANSFER INTO THE SAME CLASS AS US!?
Y-YOU KNOW, F...FROM WHAT I'VE HEARD, AREN'T YOU ONE YEAR YOUNGER THAN US!?


SAKAMOTO-SAMA!!


WHOA! WHOA! WHOA!
AFTER ALL, THERE'S SOMEONE HERE WHO ENROLLED AS A GIRL DESPITE BEING A GUY.

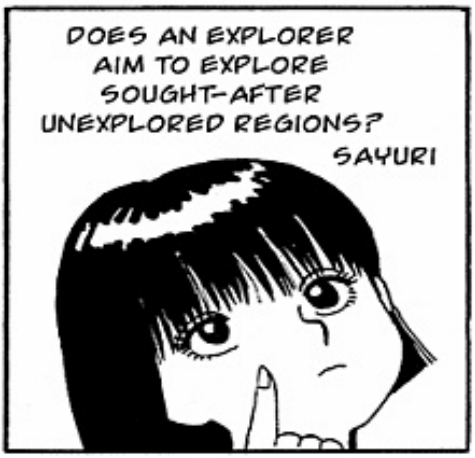
OHHH? YOU CAN GET SOMETHING LIKE THAT DONE IF YOU KNOW WHAT STRINGS TO PULL.

THEN IN EXCHANGE FOR KEEPING IT A SECRET, PLEASE ACCOMPANY ME TOMORROW.

IT'D ONLY CAUSE TROUBLE!
AND WHAT IF I DO?

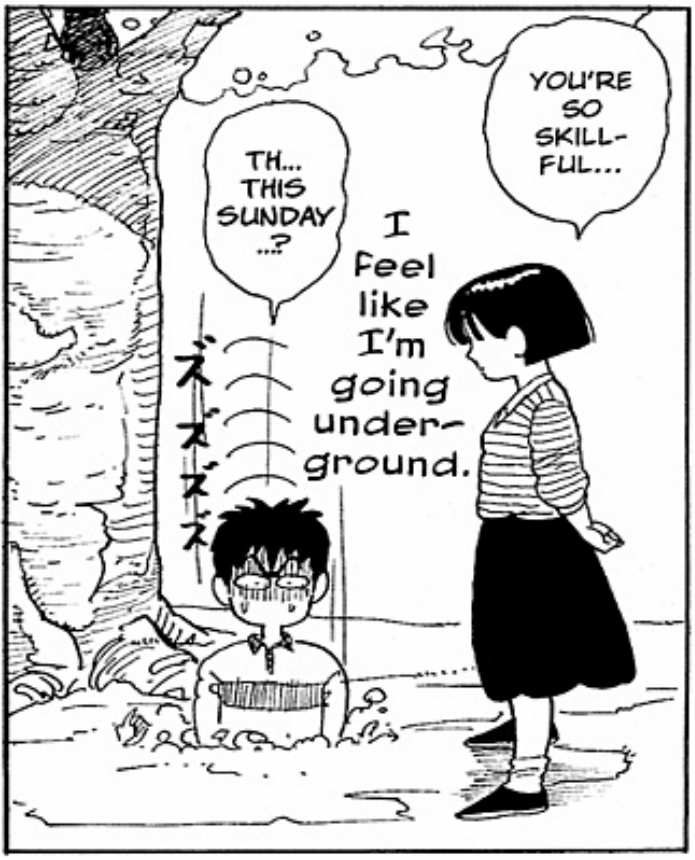
DON'T TALK ABOUT THAT AT THIS SCHOOL!

Haa-
SEC
RET
HIBARI OOZORA IS A
GREAT JAPAN EXPOSURE PARTY
WAAAAA!
THAT MAN IS ITCHING TO REVEAL THIS SECRET.


DOES AN EXPLORER AIM TO EXPLORE SOUGHT-AFTER UNEXPLORED REGIONS?
SAYURI

Y-YOU COWARD!

IF YOU'LL SPEND SOME TIME WITH ME, I DEFINTELY WON'T LET HIM REVEAL THE SECRET.

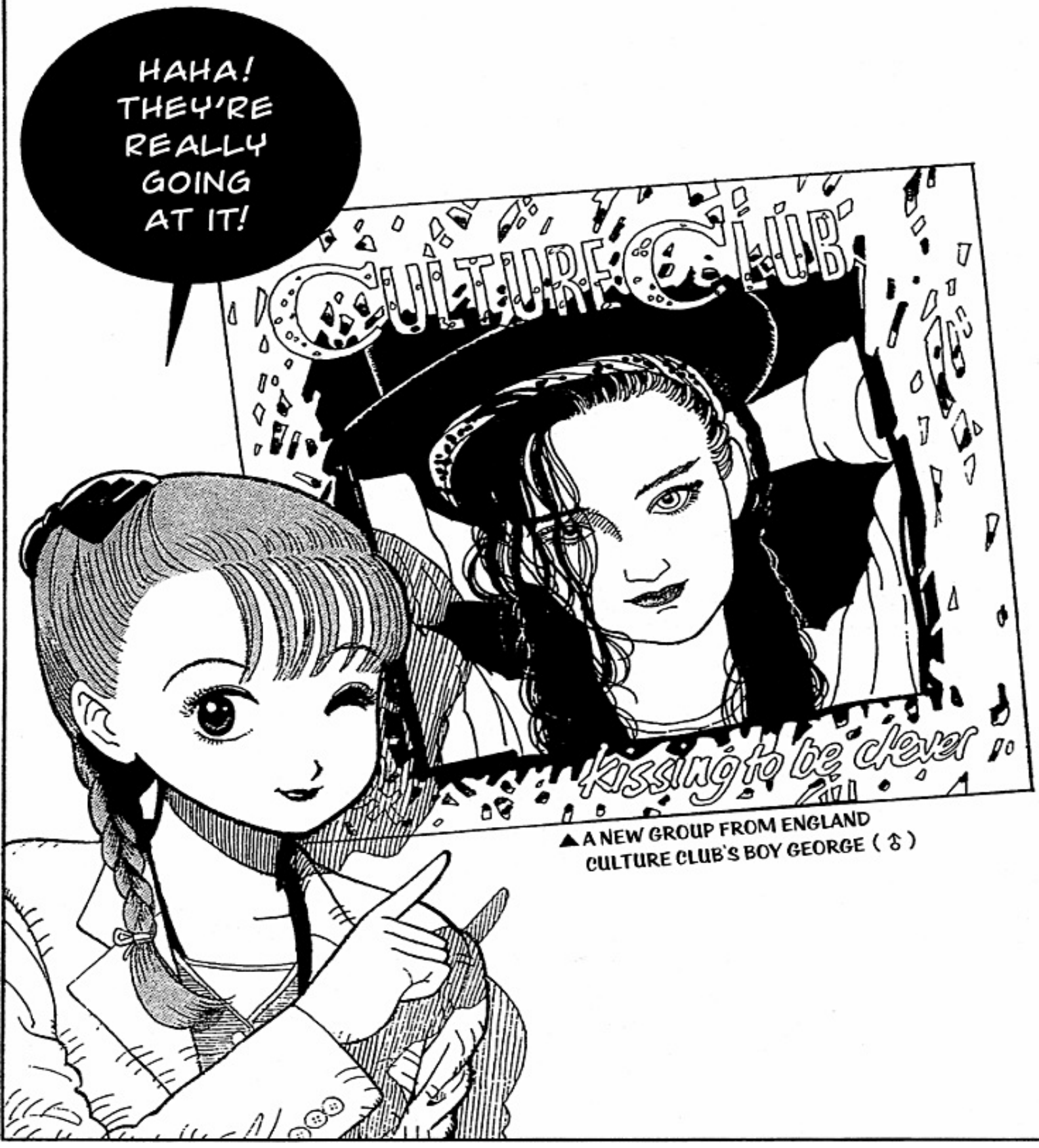

YOU'RE SO SKILL-FUL...
TH... THIS SUNDAY ...?
I feel like I'm going under-ground.
ズズズズ

OWW!

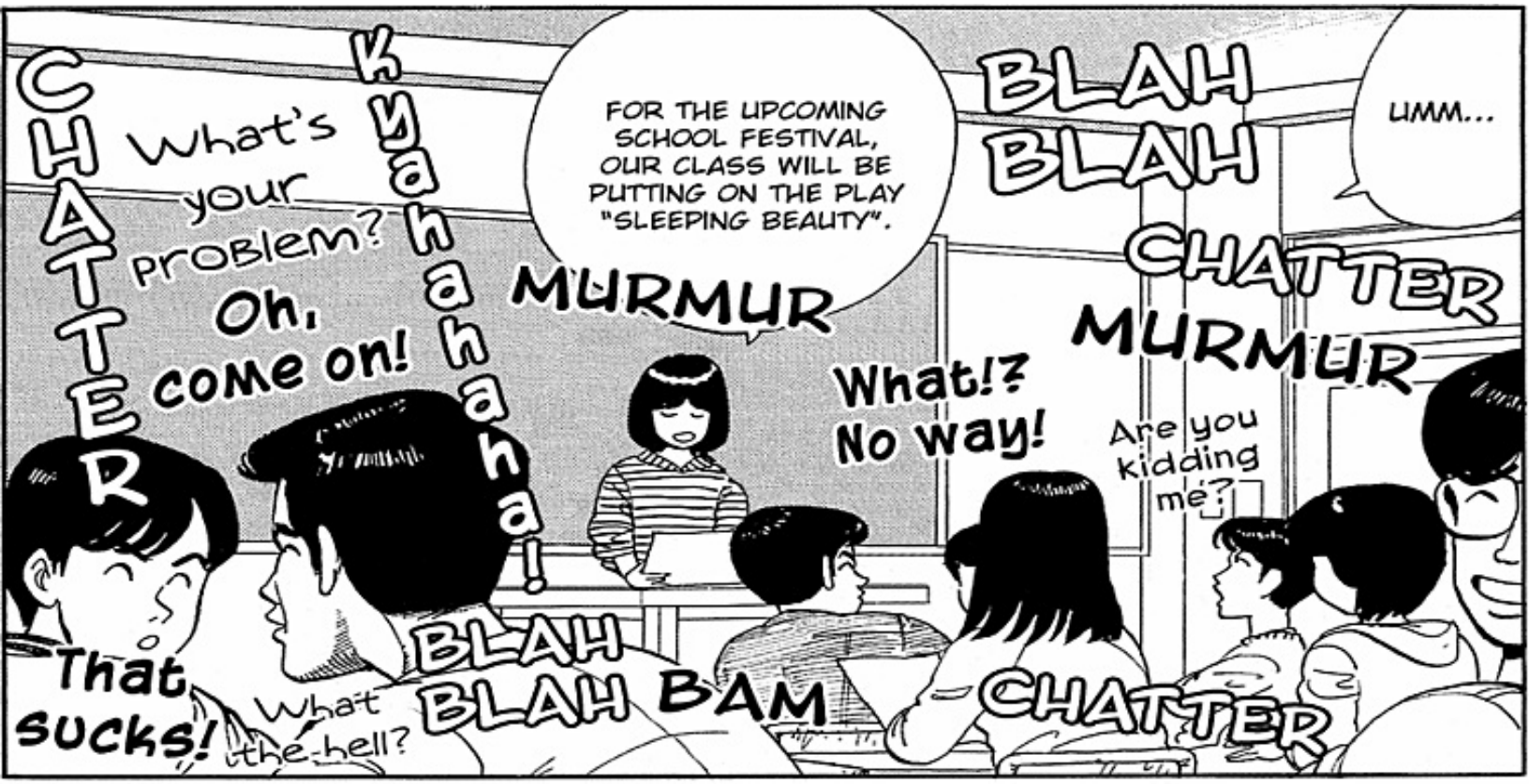
FOR NOW, LET'S GO ON A DATE THIS SUNDAY!

HUH!? SAKAMOTO-KUN AND KOUENJI-SAN!?
SO THAT'S THE KIND OF GUY YOU WERE, SAKAMOTO-KUN!
What!? Really!?
HEY! I HAVE BIG NEWS! I SAW KOUSAKU ON A DATE WITH KOUENJI YESTERDAY!
AND SO, NEXT MONDAY
TRADE MARK
SA... SAKAMOTO... WHEN DID YOU TURN INTO SUCH A PLAYER?
You don't waste any time, Kousaku!
ON TOP OF NOT TELLING ME YOU WERE GOING ON A DATE WITH KOUENJI-SAN, YOU ALSO MADE A PROMISE TO HANG OUT WITH KAWAI-SAN!?
KOTOBUKI STUDIO
SOMEONE DO SOMETHING.
つかつかつかつ
I'm just getting started!
Eh heh!

WHO'S THE PRINCE AND THE PRINCESS!?



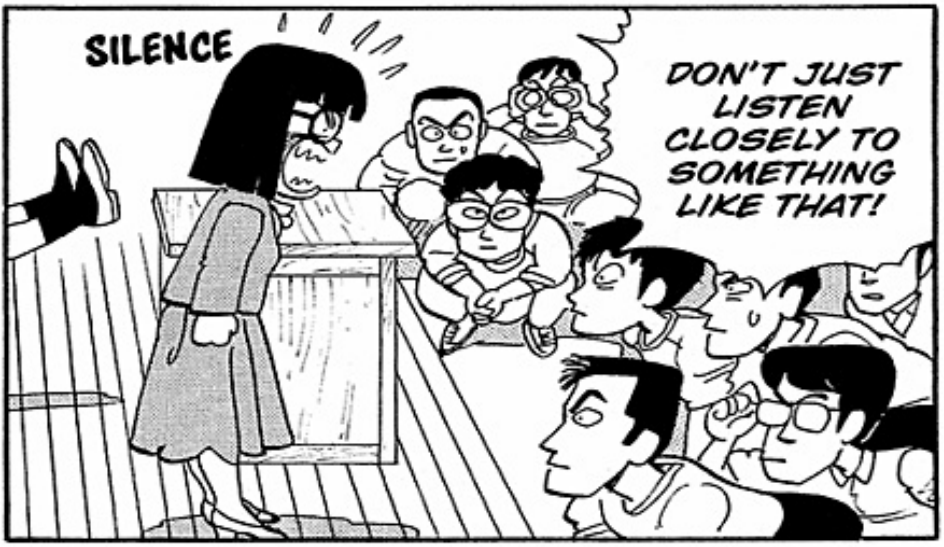
▲A NEW GROUP FROM ENGLAND CULTURE CLUB'S BOY GEORGE (♂)

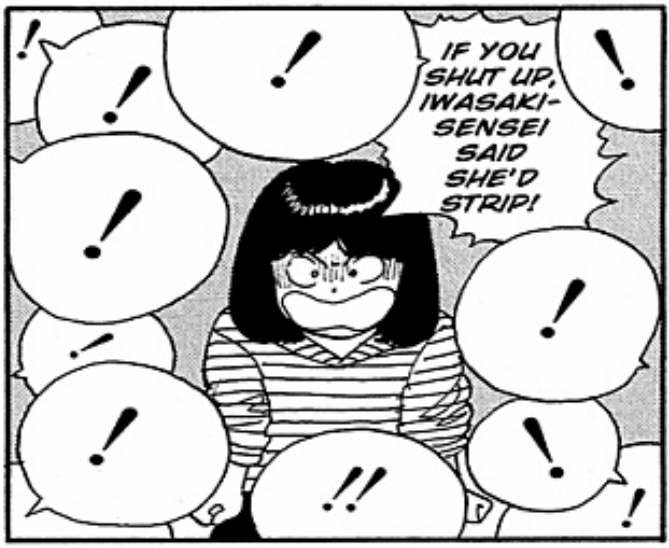


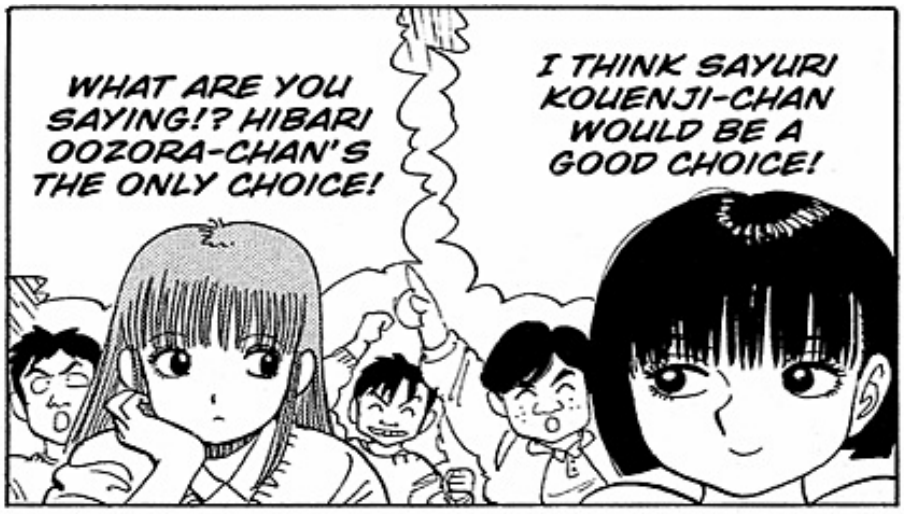
Don't you feel bad for timid hosts at times like these?

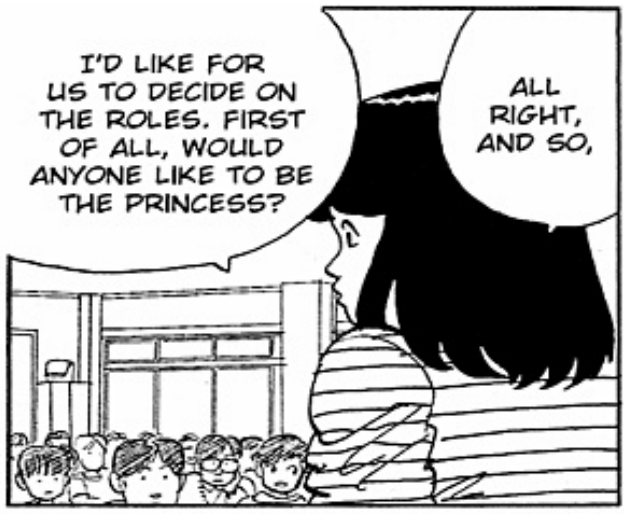
Hello, I'm Benian Aquino
I'm script writer Iwao Niikura.
Umm, Kouenji-san, where do you live?
Have you ever done a play?
Hibari! Hibari! Would you go on a date with me on Sunday?
Huh? Kouenji? Just another one who's hard to deal with.
Yeah, in junior high
Listen to me
Hey! Where did you buy those culottes?
What did you say!?
doing those weird part-time jobs is stupid.
Why are you so well-off!?
They're expensive!
How nice! Maybe I'll buy some, too.

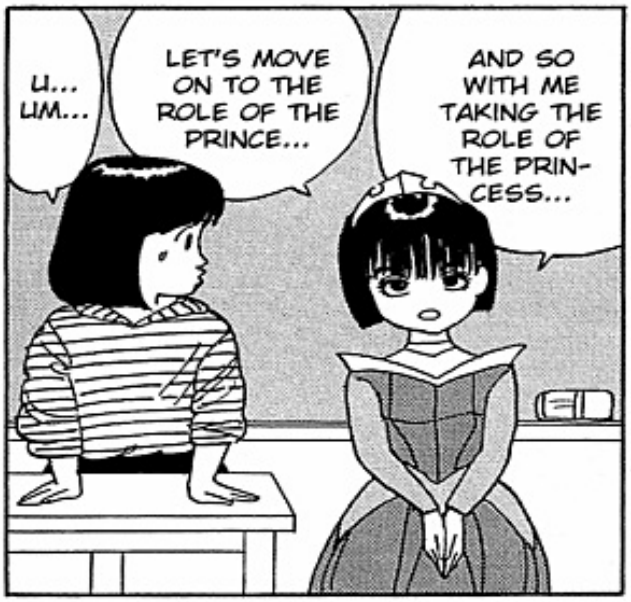
A date cafe?
We'll be together
PLEASE BE QUIET!
Sleeping Beauty? We're not grade schoolers! Come on!
Huh? Really?
What? We're really doing a play?
How about no?
Let's do something a little more practical!
What do you mean practical?
Huh!? Do we all have to do it?
You've gotta be kidding me!
Like me finding myself a girlfriend.
There you go again











FROM THE LOOKS OF THAT COSTUME, YOU SEEM TO BE EAGER ENOUGH.
OH MY... THE LEAD ROLE OF "SLEEPING BEAUTY" WOULD BE A LOT FOR ME TO BEAR.

WHAT'S WITH THAT GIRL? EVEN THOUGH SHE JUST GOT HERE, SHE'S SO STUCK-UP.
There Kaori goes again with that bad habit of hers.
It's not a habit. She just likes doing it.

Whoa, man. This is for the role of the prince. ↑

ALL RIGHT, THAT'S QUICK AND EASY.
HOW ABOUT THE ONE WHO PLAYS THE PRINCESS GETS TO CHOOSE WHO PLAYS THE PRINCE?
AHH, WHEN IT GOES SILENT ON AN AUTUMN DAY LIKE THIS, THE SKY IS SO HIGH...
Silence
I DON'T WANT TO DO IT!
WHAT!?
I WANT SAKAMOTO-SAMA TO PLAY THE PRINCE.
HIBARI OOZORA
IS ACTUALLY A
WAAAAA! OKAY! I'LL DO IT!
EXPO
SURE
Great Japan Exposure Party
WAAA!
GAAA-AAAH!

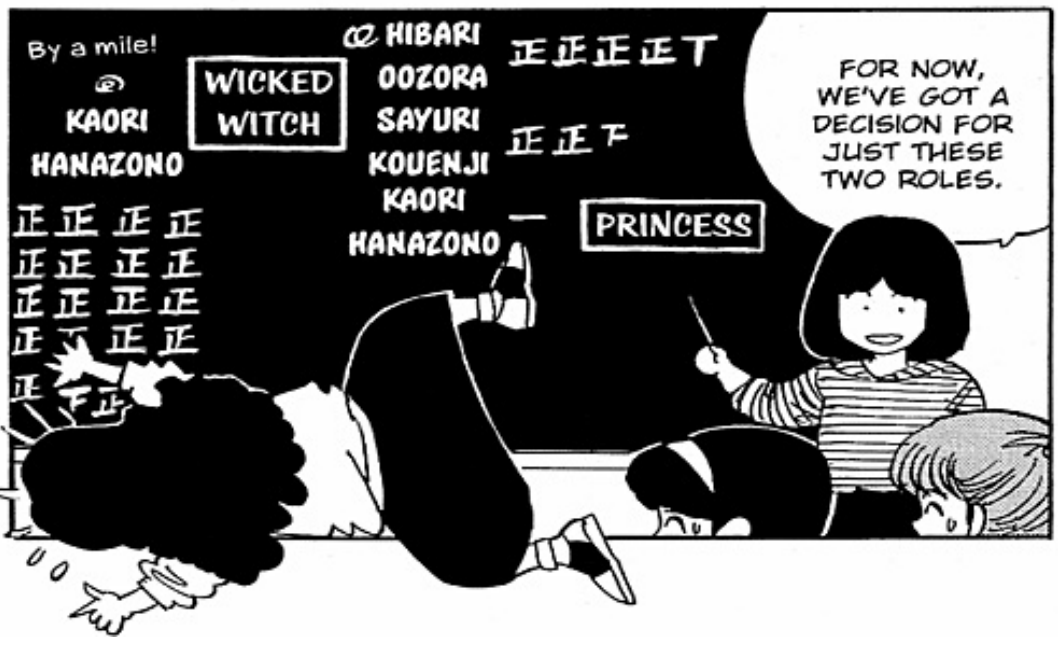
WAIT!

HUH!? YOU'LL VOLUNTARILY PLAY THE ROLE OPPOSITE ME? I'M SO TOUCHED...
I'LL DO IT! I'LL DO IT! I'LL TOTALLY DO IT! SHEESH!
I can't stand.

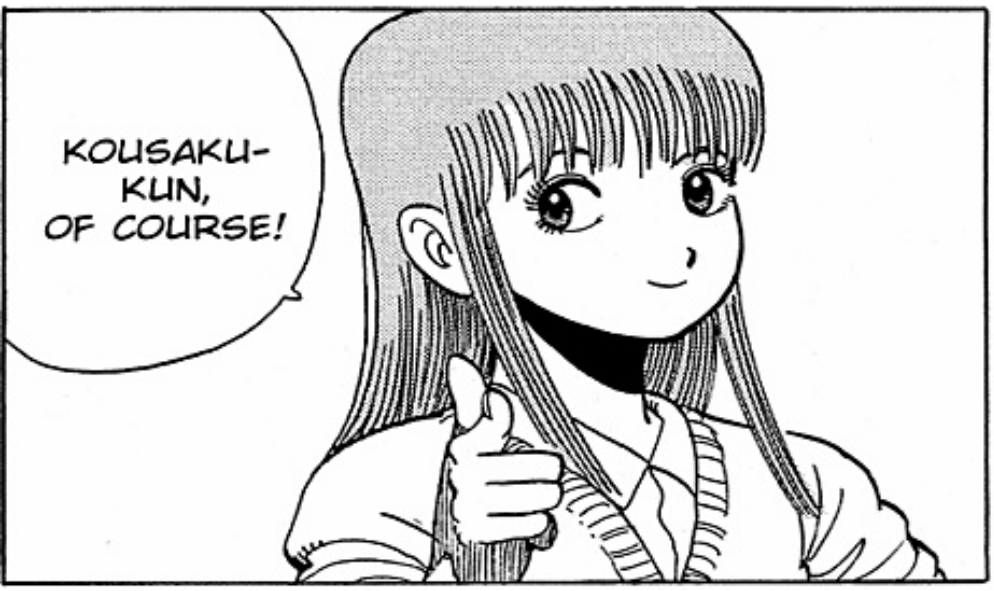
だあ
WHY WOULD YOU FALL OVER IF I'M PLAYING THE PRINCESS!?

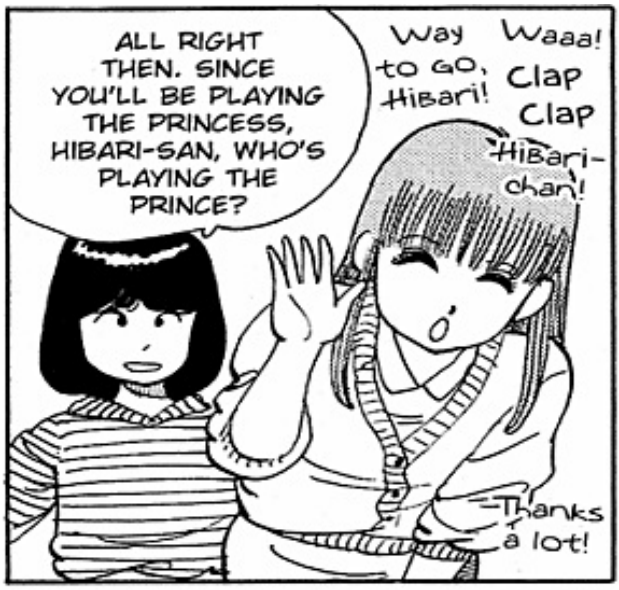
AND SO WILL I!

I'LL NOMINATE MYSELF TO PLAY THE PRINCESS, TOO!


By a mile!
© KAORI HANAZONO
WICKED WITCH
© HIBARI OOZORA
SAYURI KOUENJI
KAORI HANAZONO
PRINCESS
FOR NOW, WE'VE GOT A DECISION FOR JUST THESE TWO ROLES.

LET'S PUT IT TO A VOTE.
ALL RIGHT, THEN BETWEEN THESE THREE,


KOUSAKU-KUN, OF COURSE!


ALL RIGHT THEN. SINCE YOU'LL BE PLAYING THE PRINCESS, HIBARI-SAN, WHO'S PLAYING THE PRINCE?
Way to go, Hibari!
Waaa!
Clap Clap
Hibari-chan!
Thanks a lot!

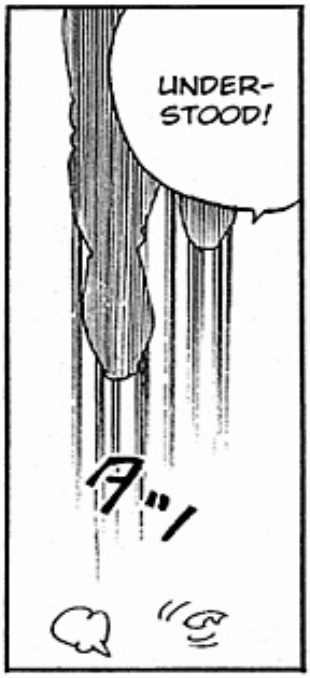
TELL THE ONE WHO RUNS THIS SCHOOL ABOUT HIBARI OOZORA'S SECRET.

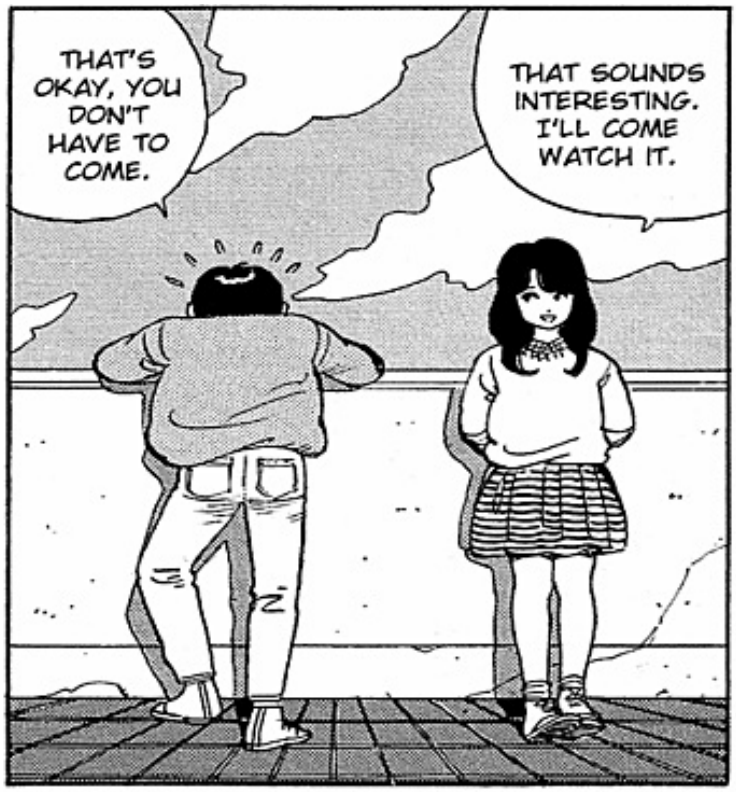
SHADOW!!
YES?
だっ

Grind

LOSING TO THAT DRAG QUEEN IS SUCH A DISGRACE!

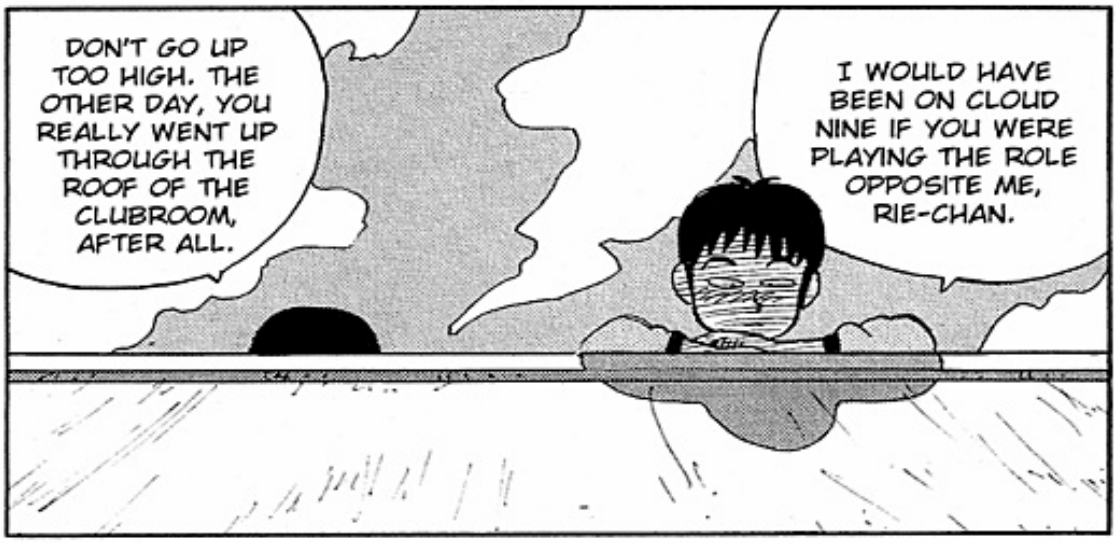
THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU TRY TO DO SOMETHING YOU CAN'T.
Tingle
Shake


UNDER-STOOD!

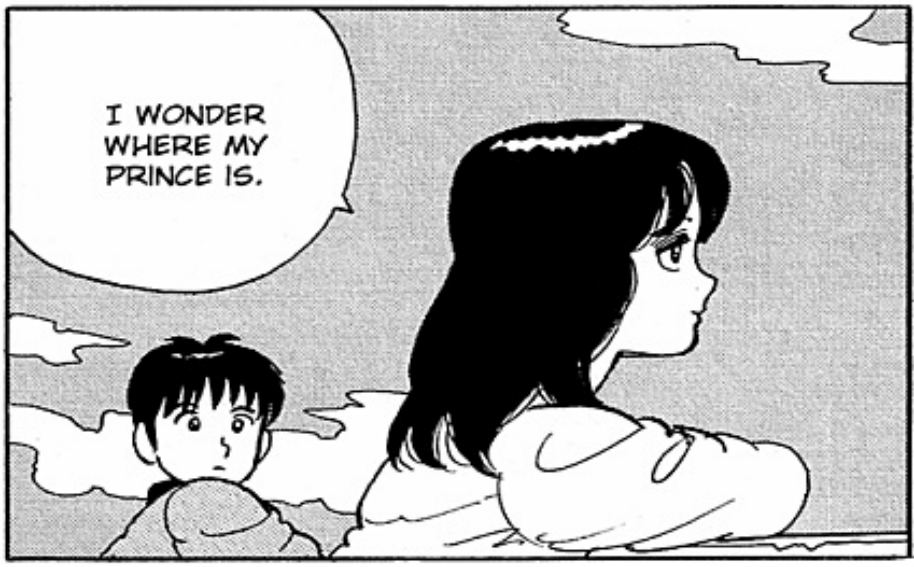

THAT'S OKAY, YOU DON'T HAVE TO COME.
THAT SOUNDS INTERESTING. I'LL COME WATCH IT.

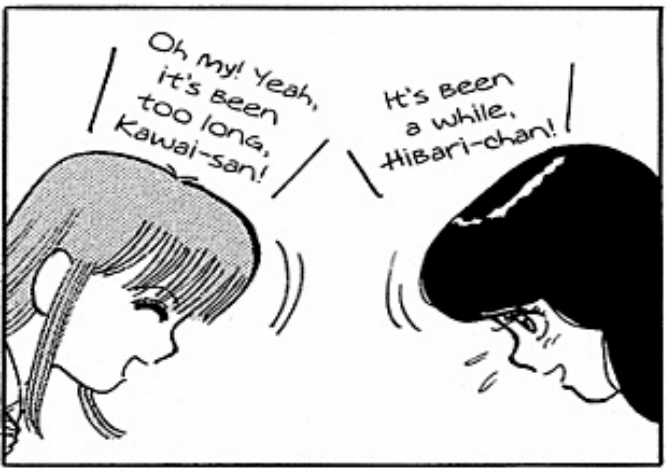
WOW...YOU'RE GONNA BE THE PRINCE AND OOZORA-SAN'S GONNA BE THE PRINCESS?

A PRINCE...


DON'T GO UP TOO HIGH. THE OTHER DAY, YOU REALLY WENT UP THROUGH THE ROOF OF THE CLUBROOM, AFTER ALL.
I WOULD HAVE BEEN ON CLOUD NINE IF YOU WERE PLAYING THE ROLE OPPOSITE ME, RIE-CHAN.

AM I NOT GOOD ENOUGH TO BE YOUR PRINCE?


I WONDER WHERE MY PRINCE IS.

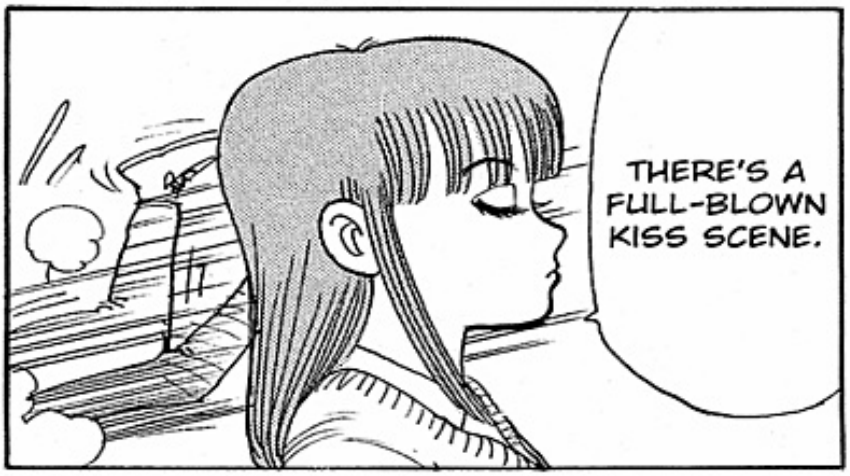

Oh My! Yeah, it's been too long, Kawai-san!
It's been a while, Hibari-chan!

Congrats on coming back to the boxing club!
Thanks!
Thanks! It's nothing really! Congrats to you, too!
Way to go! I heard you're playing the lead role in the play!

Geez! Whenever you're around Kawai-san, you go into romantic comedy mode!
Waa!
LOOK, KOUSAKU! YOU MADE A BOX APPEAR AROUND IT!
GRAB!
The other side of the box.
WHOA! GAAAAH! DON'T LOOK!

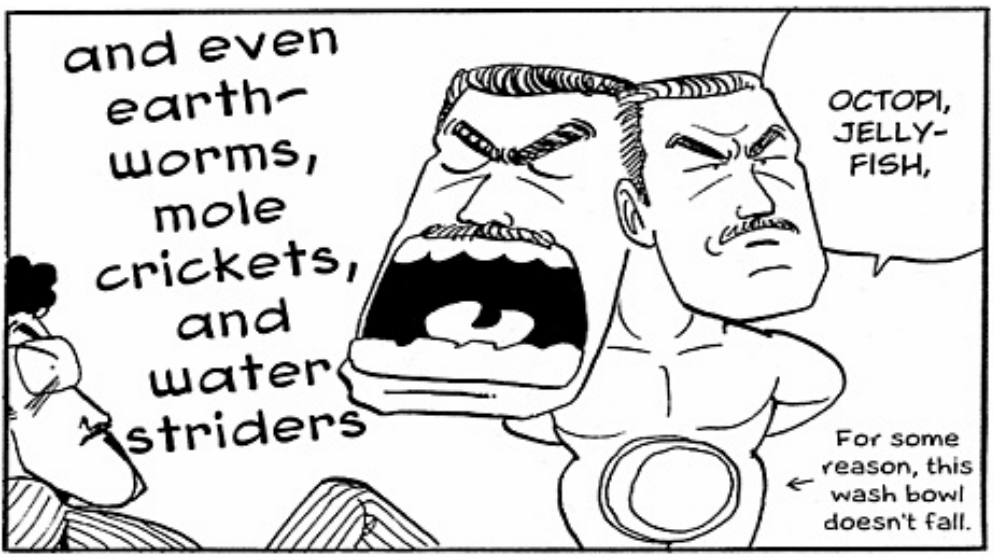
I'M IN CHARGE OF THE SCRIPT, TOO.
Sleeping Beauty script: Hibari Oozora

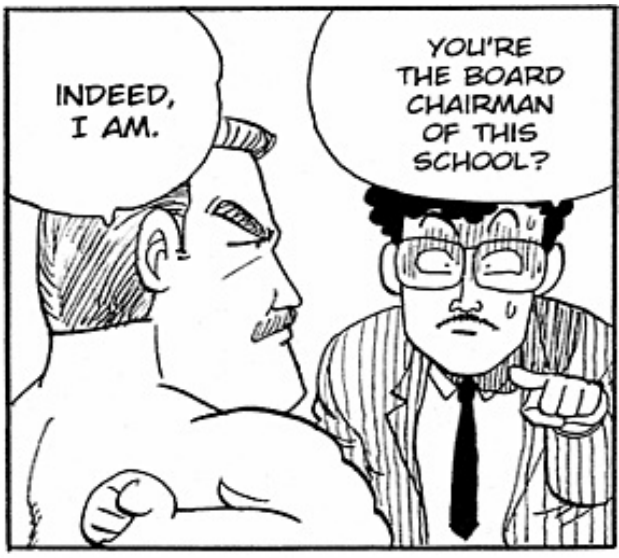
WHAT? WHO WROTE THIS?
IT'S REALLY WELL-DONE.
WOW! SO THIS IS THE SCRIPT?

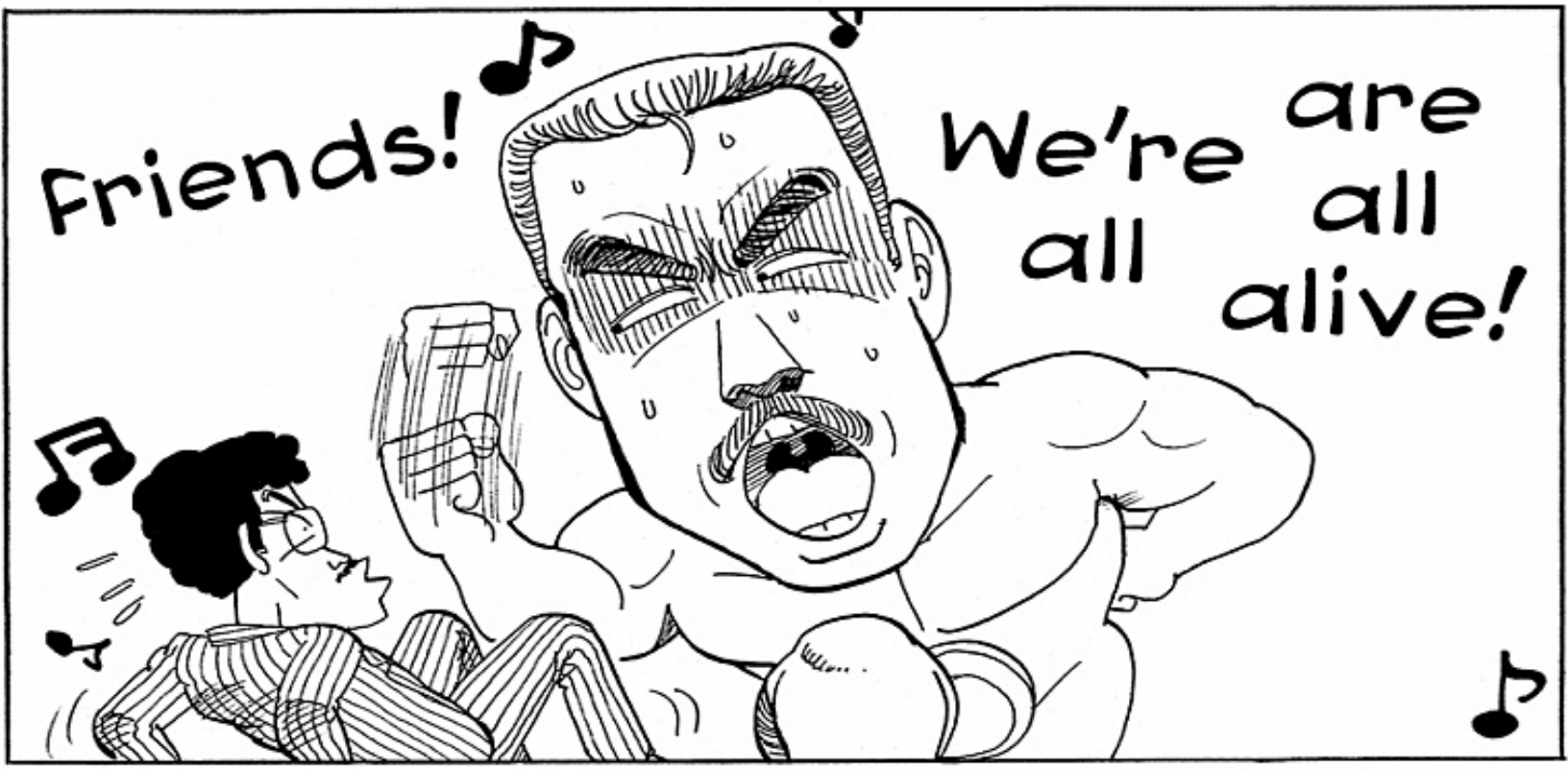

THERE'S A FULL-BLOWN KISS SCENE.

THAT YOU DIDN'T INCLUDE THE SCENE WHERE THE PRINCE AND THE PRINCESS KISS...WE'RE DOING THIS PLAY AT SCHOOL, AFTER ALL.
HI... HIBARI-KUN, TELL ME...

CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE
Erm...
THERE'S NO REASON TO DULL DOWN THE SHOW "BECAUSE IT'S A SCHOOL PLAY"!
Doesn't Hibari-chan kind of look like she's really into this?
I-I'm worried.
CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE
KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK!
H-Hey!
Ah!
Haa!
Shake
Shake
OCCUPIED.
CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE
KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK!
OCCUPIED.
CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE
KNOCK KNOCK!
OCCUPIED.
You'd know even if you don't think about it carefully.
IF I THINK ABOUT IT CAREFULLY, I WASN'T TRYING TO GO TO THE BATHROOM!
WHOA! YOU SUR-PRISED ME.
Loofah


and even earth-worms, mole crickets, and water striders
OCTOPI, JELLY-FISH,
For some reason, this wash bowl doesn't fall.


INDEED, I AM.
YOU'RE THE BOARD CHAIRMAN OF THIS SCHOOL?

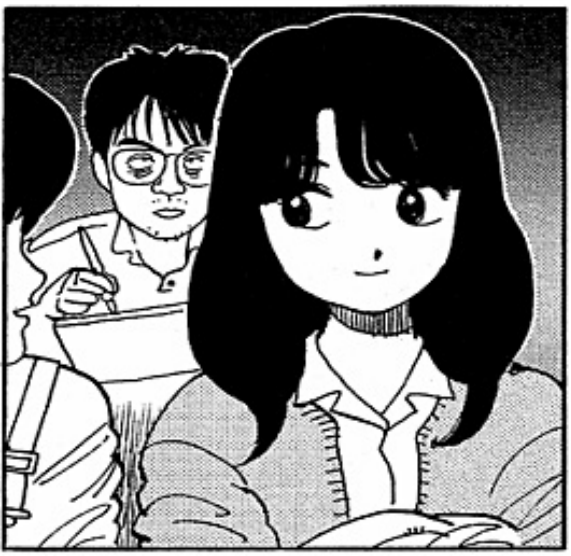

Friends!
We're all are all alive!

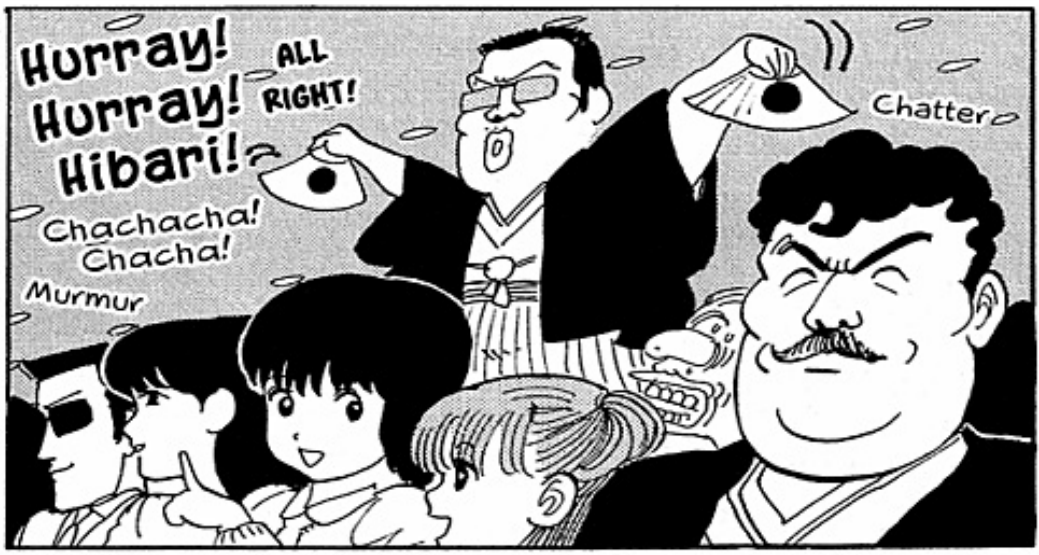
I'M ABOUT TO TAKE A BATH, SO I'M BUSY. PLEASE MAKE IT BRIEF.
OH, YEAH. WHAT DO YOU WANT?
BATHROOM
Loofah
ガラ

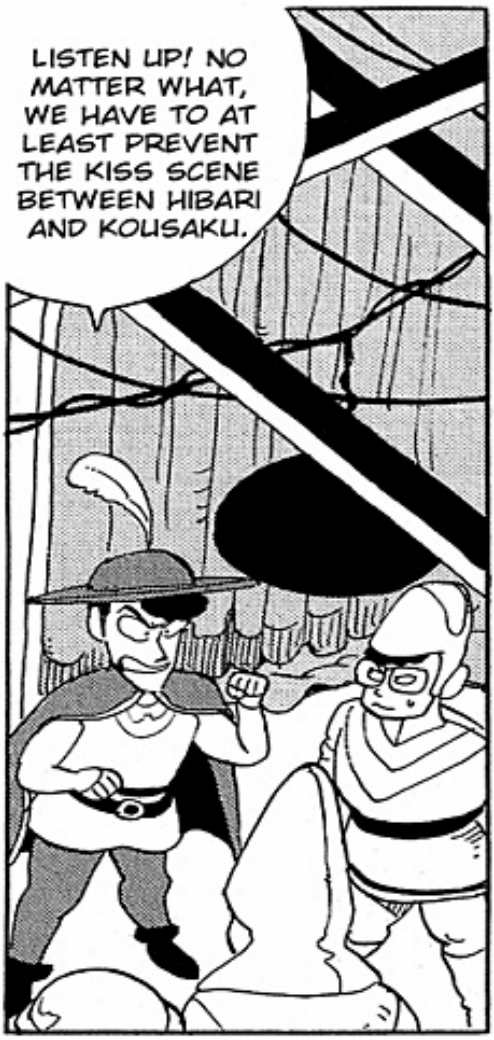
UM, EXCUSE ME, BUT WE'RE NOT GETTING ANYWHERE, SO PLEASE LEAVE IT AT THAT.
Hnn! If you hold your palm up to the sun...!

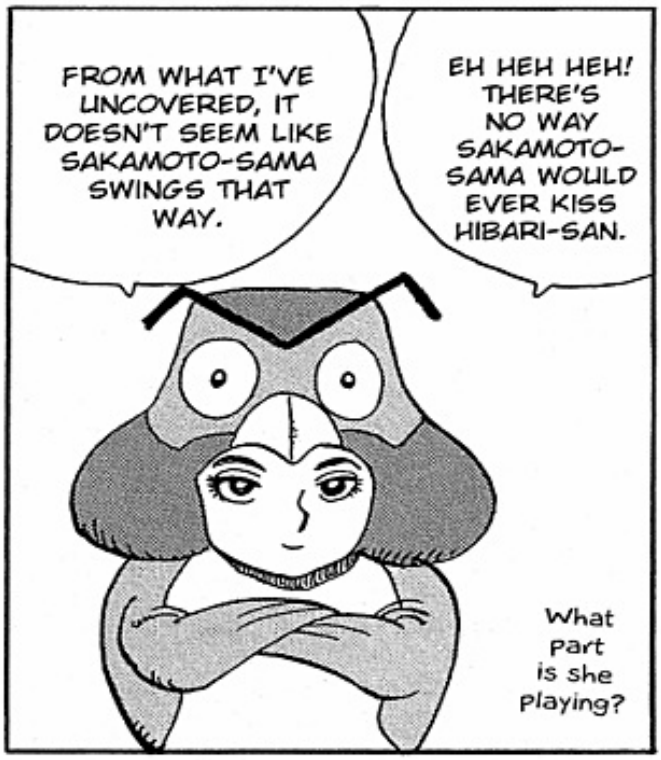
ずるっ!
A GUY.
© Nipple
Loofah
IS ACTU-ALLY...
A FEMALE STUDENT AT THIS SCHOOL NAMED HIBARI OOZORA...
He's sort of speaking Japanese.
A really big one!
IS...ISN'T THAT A PROBLEM!?
DAYOOOOOOON
I WODN'T BE MUCH OF CHAIRMAN IF I DIN'T KNOW BOUT THAT, NOW WOD I?
You really shocked me!
EH!? HUH!? WHAAAT!?
You knew!?
AND SO, ON THE DAY OF THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL...
83
WAKABA ACAEDM
CHATTER
I...I UNDERSTAND, SO PLEASE TALK WITH THAT PART COVERED UP.
IT'S A MATTER OF PERSONAL TASTE!
Loofah

PLAY: SLEEPING BEAUTY



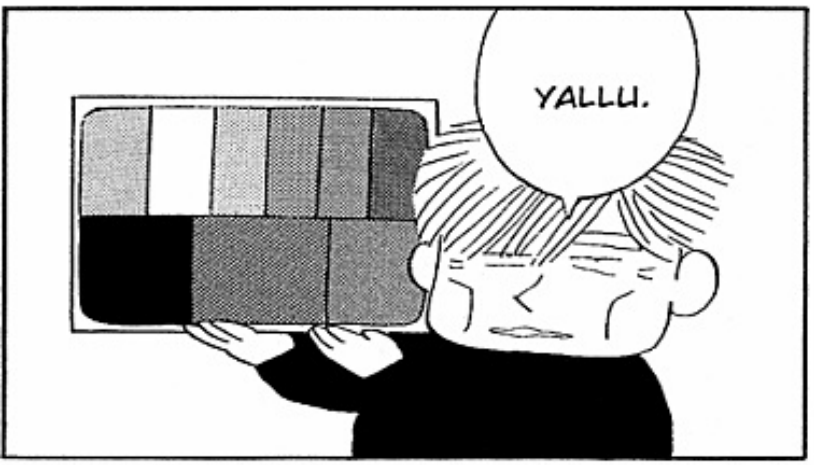


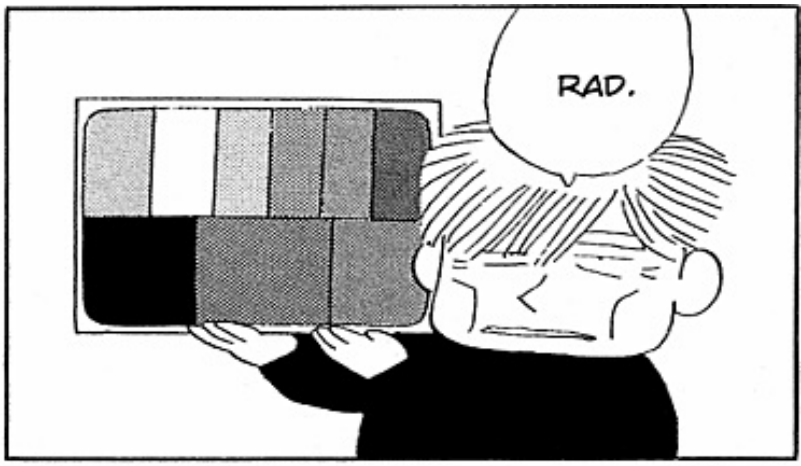


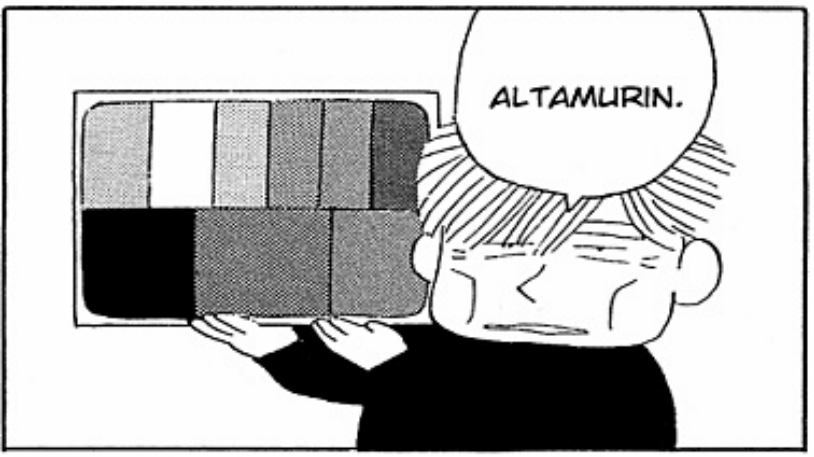

FROM WHAT I'VE UNCOVERED, IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE SAKAMOTO-SAMA SWINGS THAT WAY.
EH HEH HEH! THERE'S NO WAY SAKAMOTO-SAMA WOULD EVER KISS HIBARI-SAN.
What part is she playing?

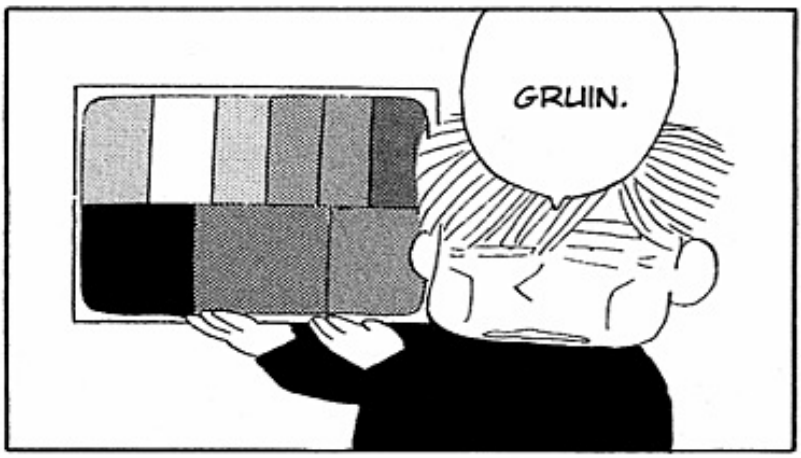
I CAN'T DO THAT, IDIOT!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, KOUSAKU? HURRY UP AND KISS ME.
Whoo! Whoo! Do it! Hurry up!
AND SO, THE PLAY MOVES FORWARD.
®TRADE MARK
A FRENCH KISS!
GEH!
YOU'RE SO FRUS-TRAT-ING!
HN!
KOU-SAKU...
N-NO WAY! IS THAT REALLY A GUY? I CAN'T BELIEVE IT.
OH, HE FAINTED...
NO MATTER WHAT YOU SAY, SAKAMOTO-KUN, IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE MADLY IN LOVE WITH OOZORA-SAN.
STAY WITH ME, DAD!
B... Blush
I GUESS I'LL JUST HAVE TO KILL YOU.
You bastard... blacking out from happiness!
Ahh! My heart's racing!
Clink
Wait up, Rie!

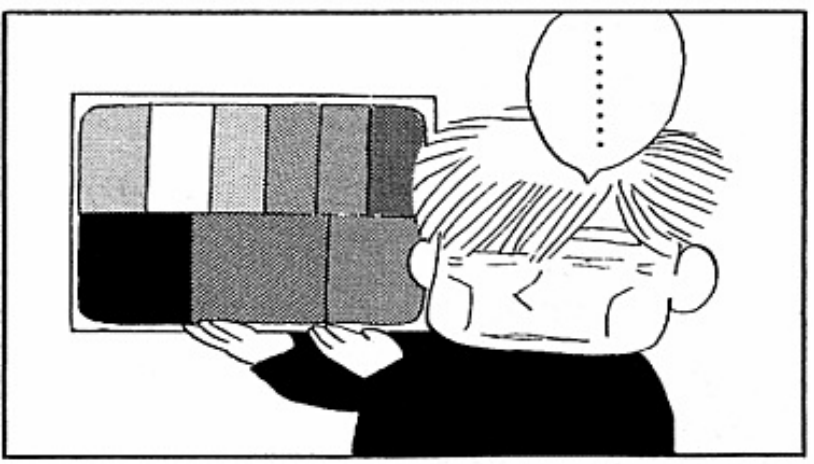
PANIC IN KOTOBUKI STUDIO!!


YALLU.


RAD.


ALTAMURIN.


GRUIN.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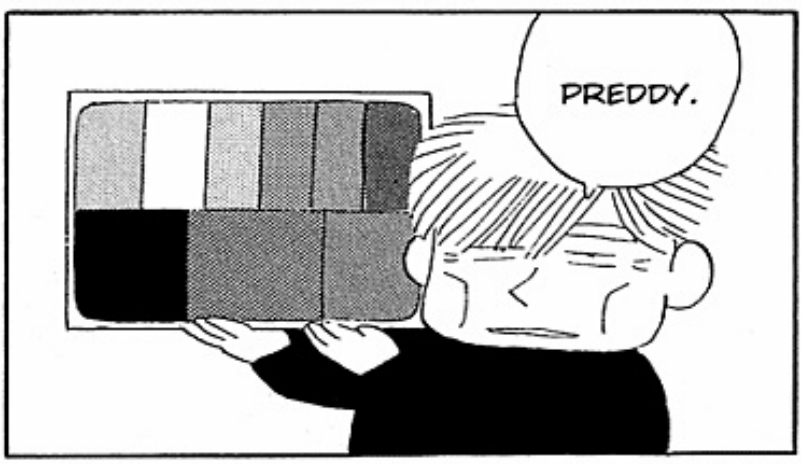
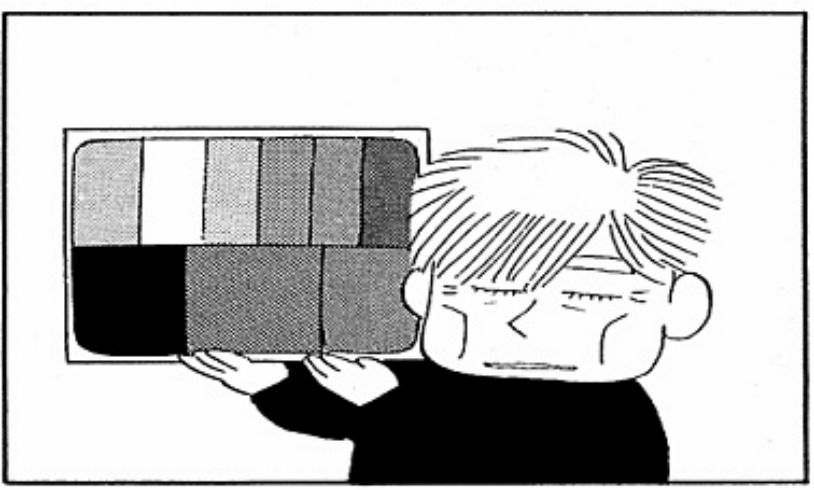
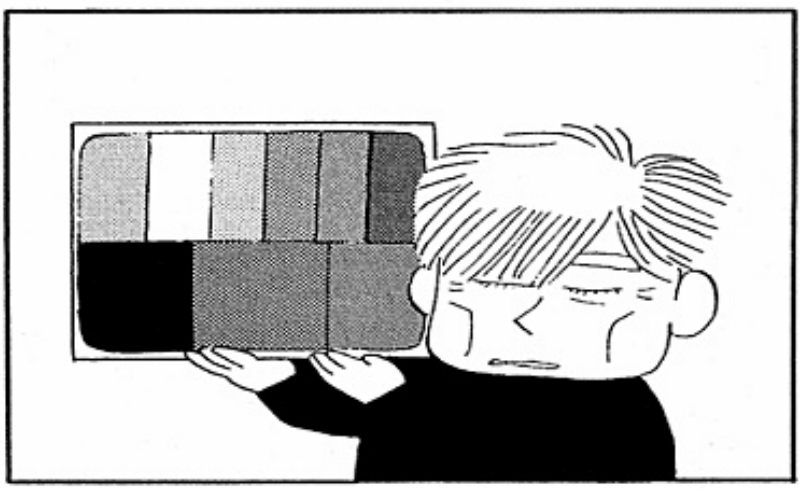
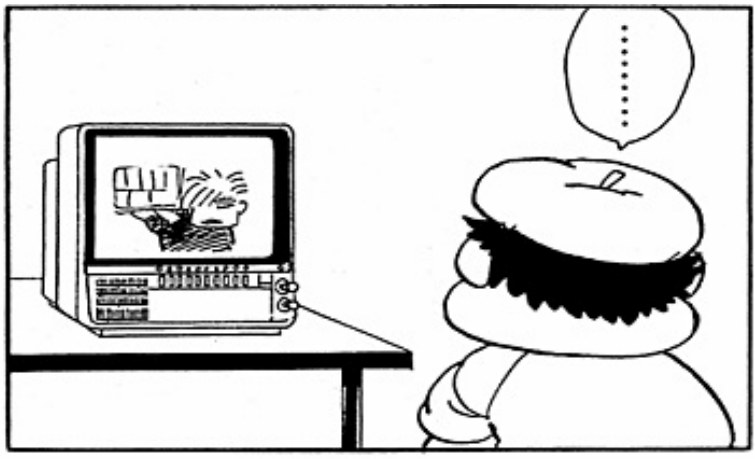
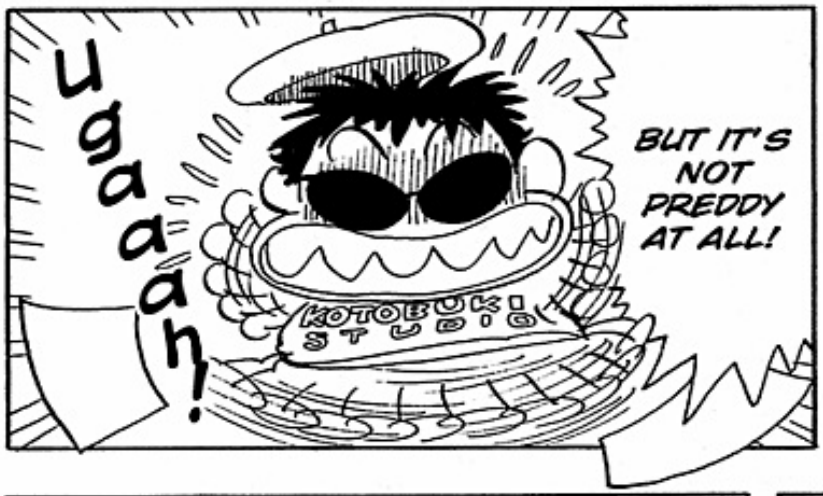
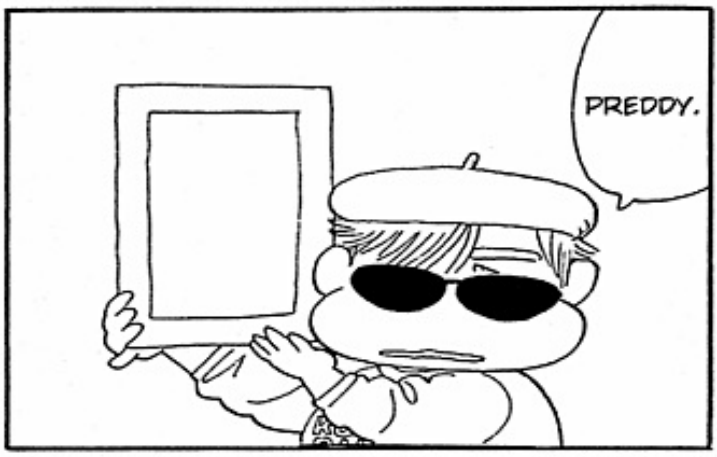

PREDDY.

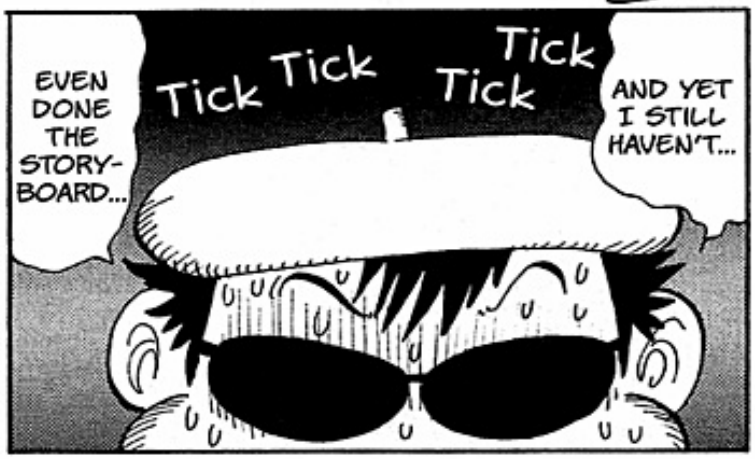


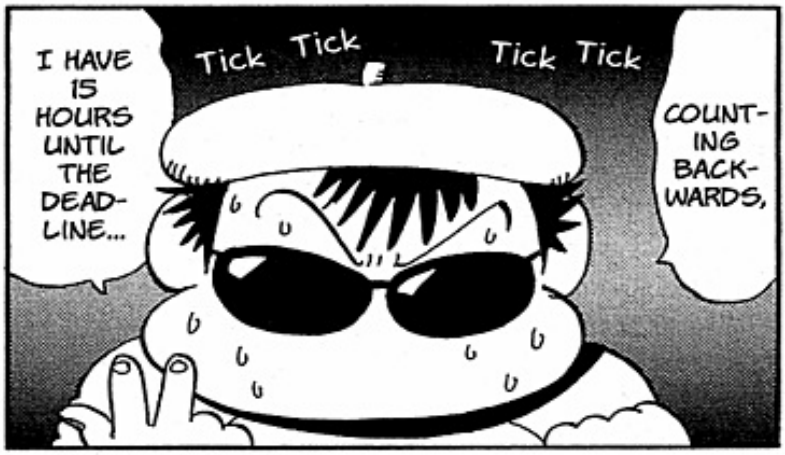




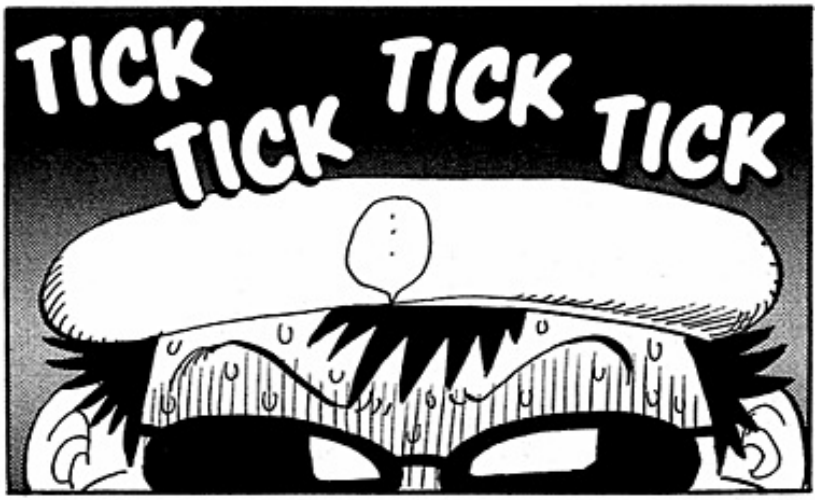


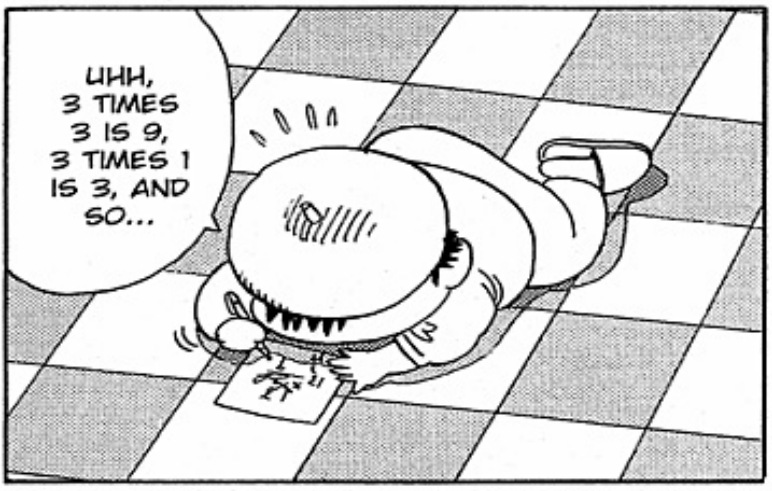


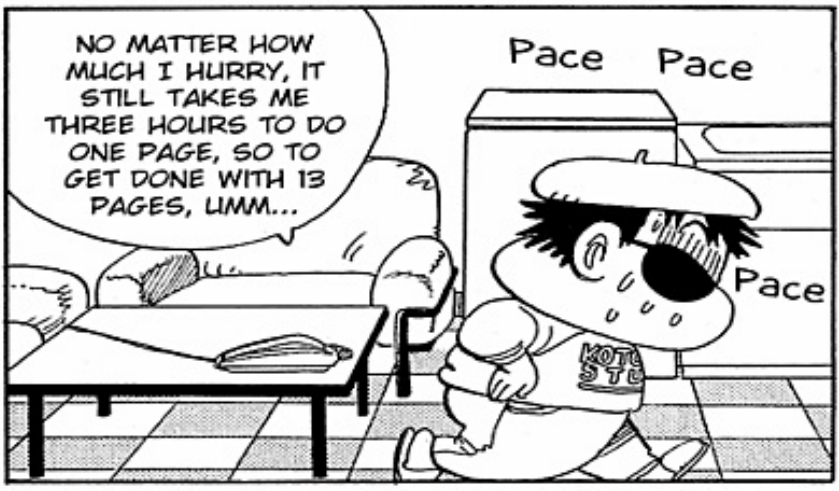




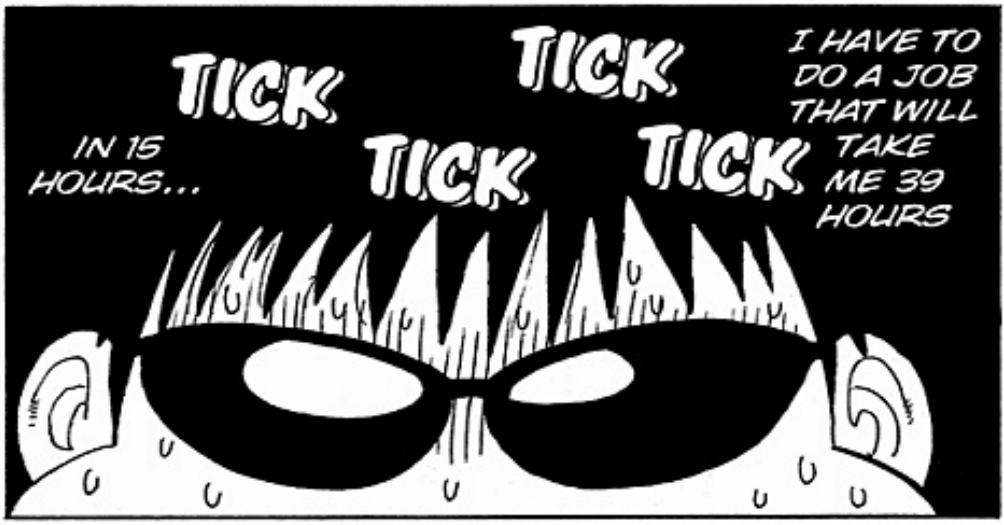
Don't count backwards.

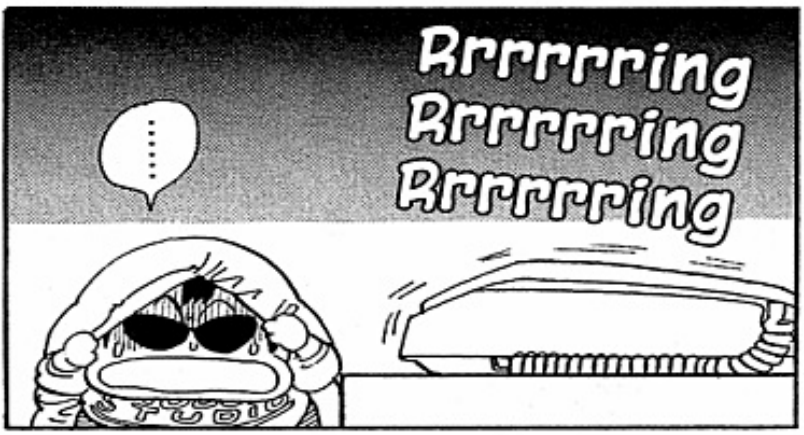



UHH, 3 TIMES 3 IS 9, 3 TIMES 1 IS 3, AND SO...


NO MATTER HOW MUCH I HURRY, IT STILL TAKES ME THREE HOURS TO DO ONE PAGE, SO TO GET DONE WITH 13 PAGES, UMM...
Pace
Pace
Pace

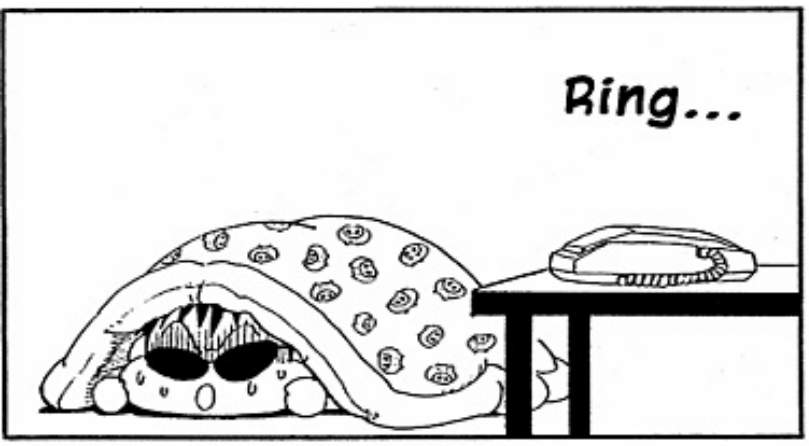
DON'T COME BACK TO LIFE!!

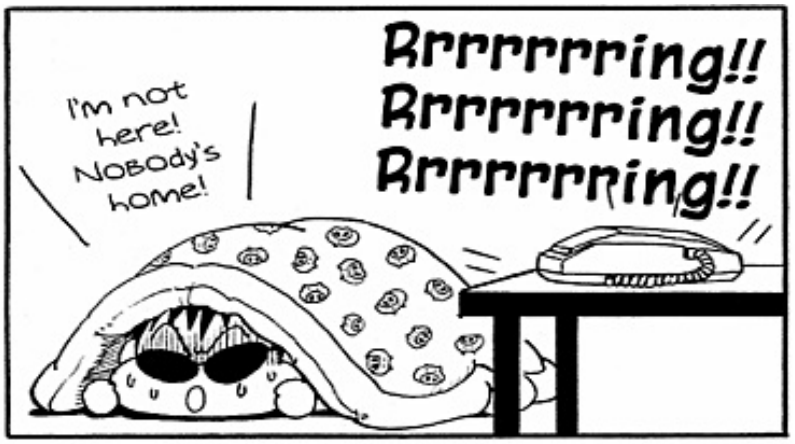

IN 15 HOURS...
TICK
TICK
TICK
TICK
I HAVE TO DO A JOB THAT WILL TAKE ME 39 HOURS

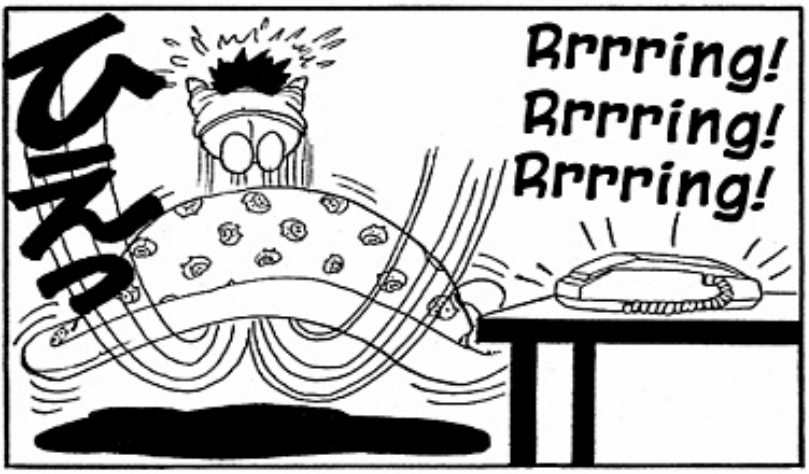

Rrrrrring
Rrrrrring
Rrrrrring

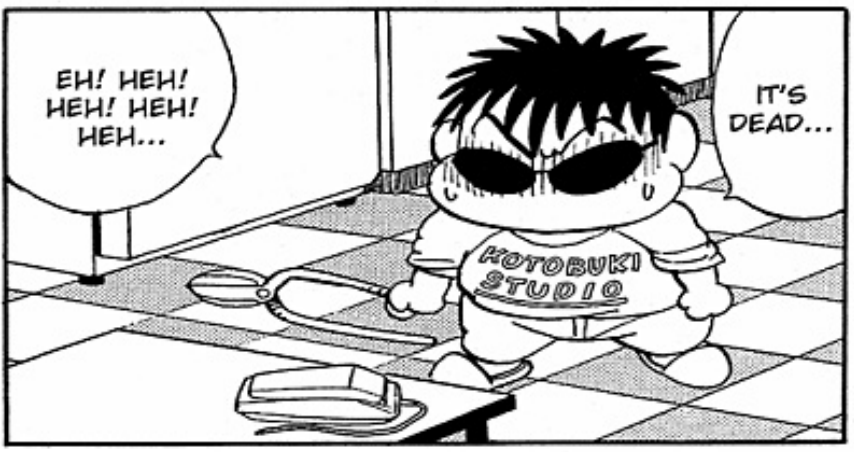
Whoa! That surprised me!!
Ring...
Rrrrrring!
Rrrrrring!!
ちょわっち!!

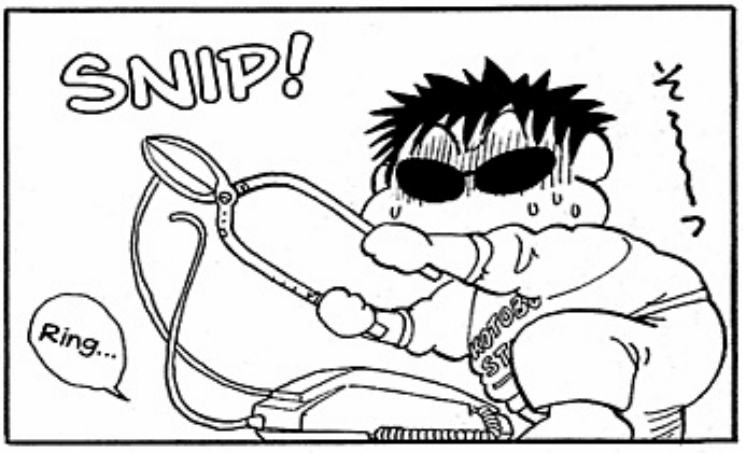
IT'S EITHER THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, AN ASSOCIATE EDITOR, THE MANAGING EDITOR, OR MY EDITOR.
I-IT'S FROM THE EDITING DEPARTMENT...
Ring Ring

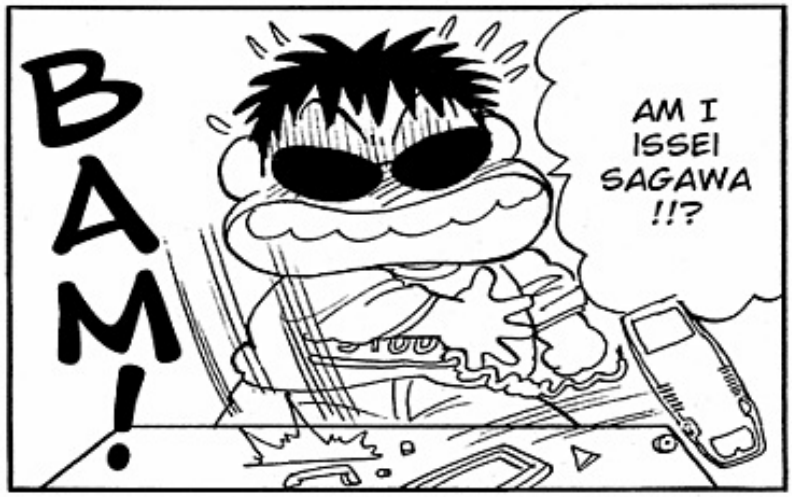


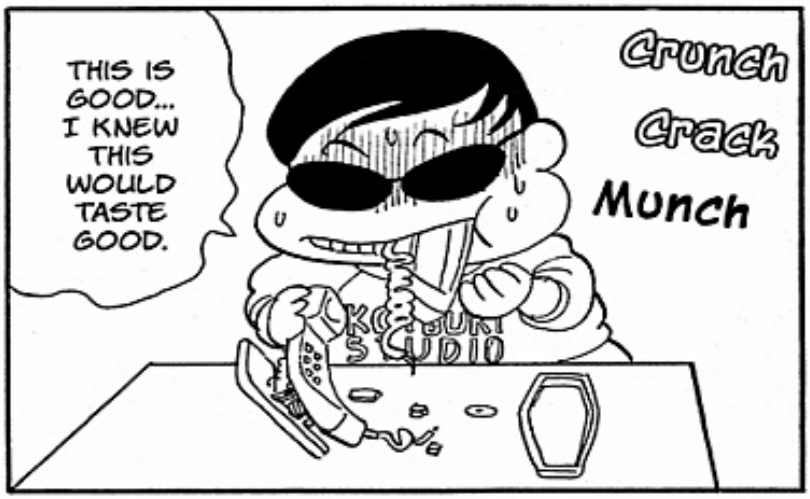




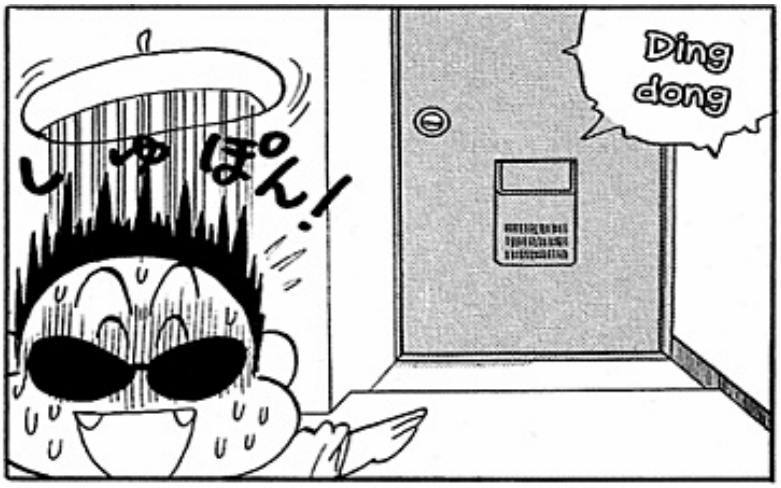


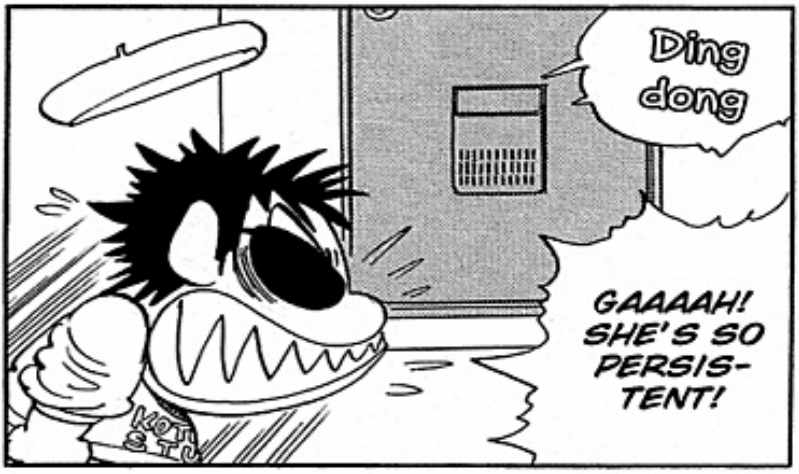


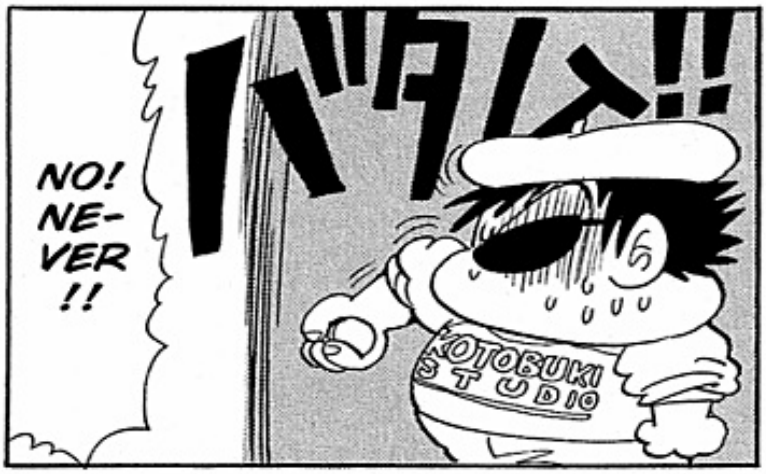


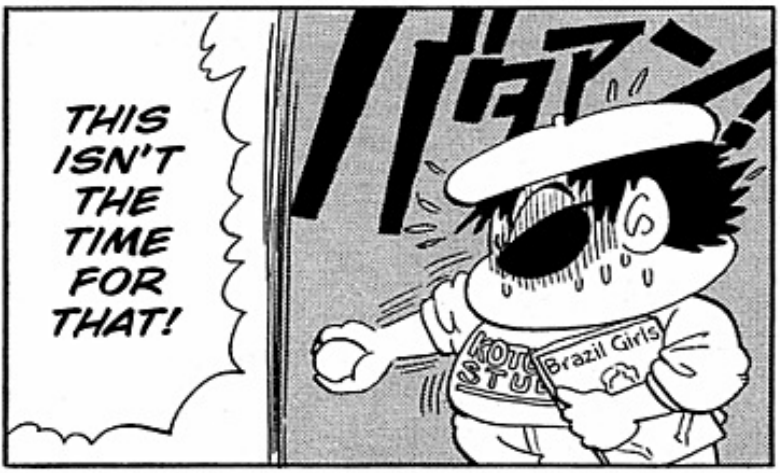


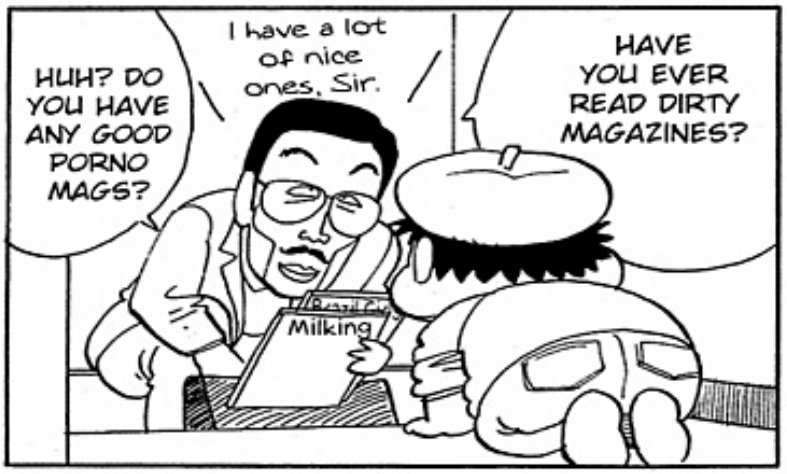
TL note: Issei Sagawa killed and partially ate a woman in 1981.





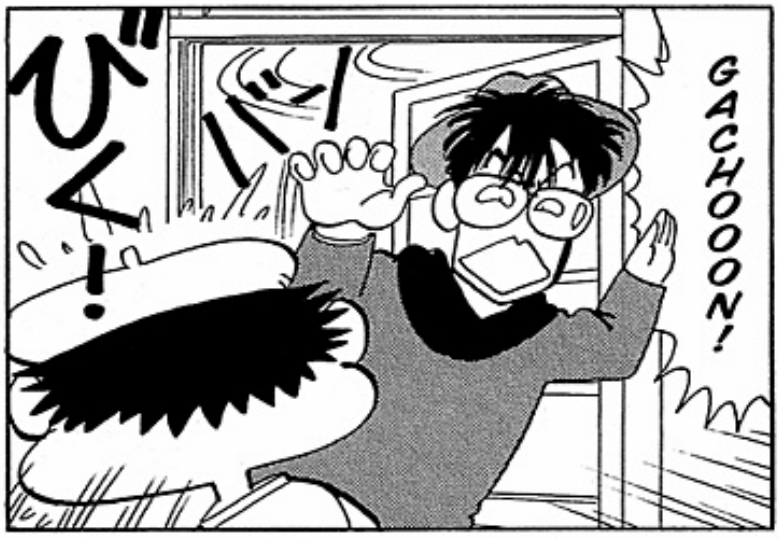




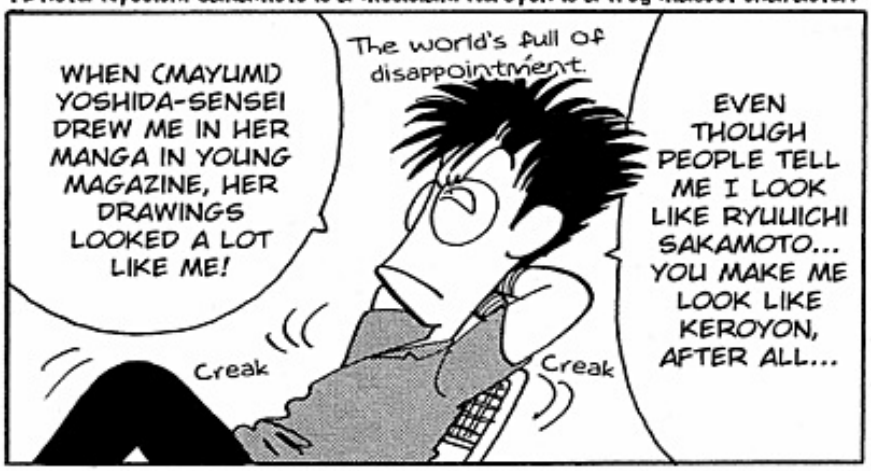


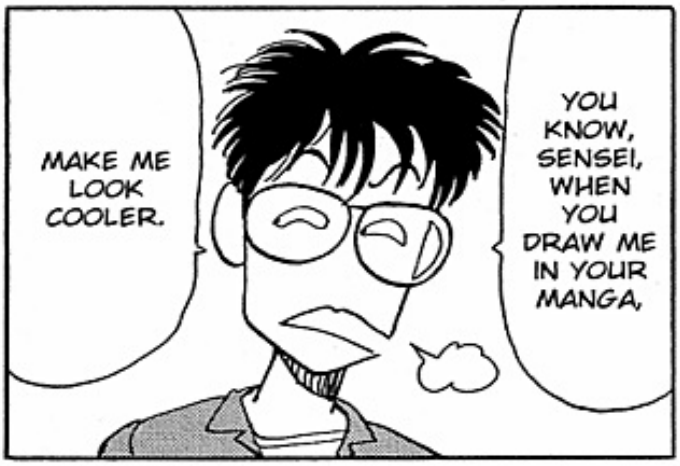
Though having said that, you made sure to buy one.

YESTERDAY ON THE PHONE, I TOLD HIM, "THE STORYBOARD? IT'S DONE, OF COURSE, SO THERE'S NOTHING FOR YOU TO WORRY ABOUT," AFTER ALL.
PLOT NOTE
STOP!! HIBARIKUN
A-AT ANY RATE, I HAVE TO AT LEAST GET THE STORYBOARD DONE BEFORE MY EDITOR COMES.



TL note: Ryuuichi Sakamoto is a musician. Keroyon is a frog mascot character.

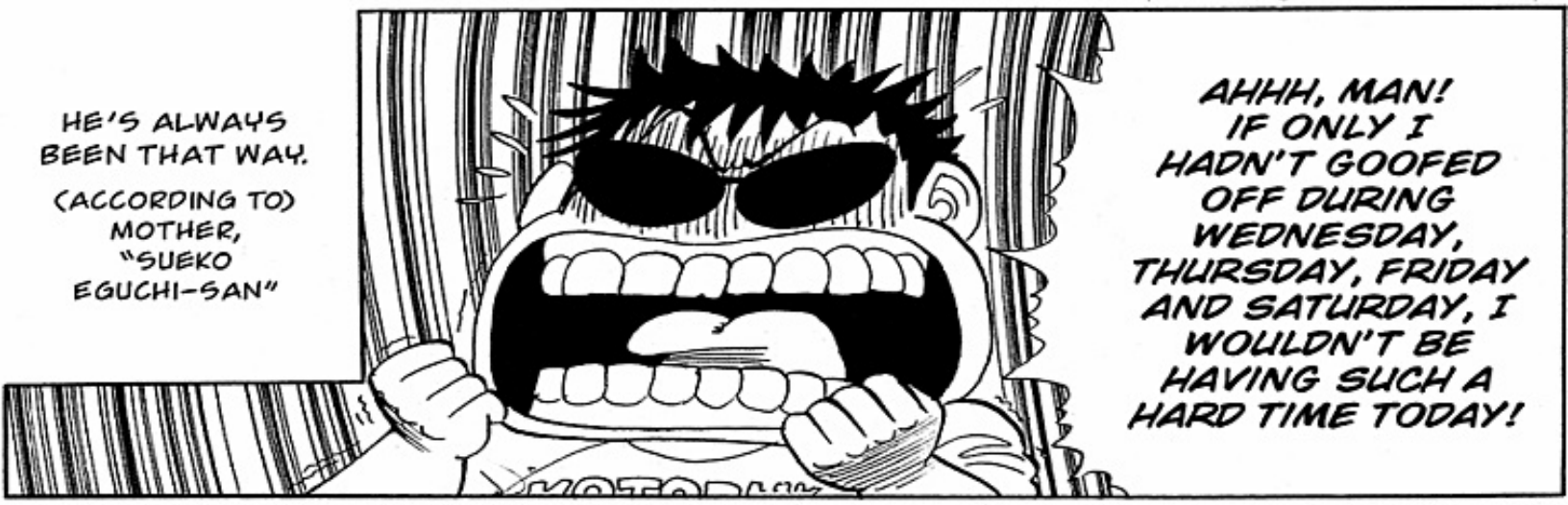

WHEN (MAYUMI) YOSHIDA-SENSEI DREW ME IN HER MANGA IN YOUNG MAGAZINE, HER DRAWINGS LOOKED A LOT LIKE ME!
The world's full of disappointment.
Creak
Creak
EVEN THOUGH PEOPLE TELL ME I LOOK LIKE RYUUICHI SAKAMOTO... YOU MAKE ME LOOK LIKE KEROYON, AFTER ALL...

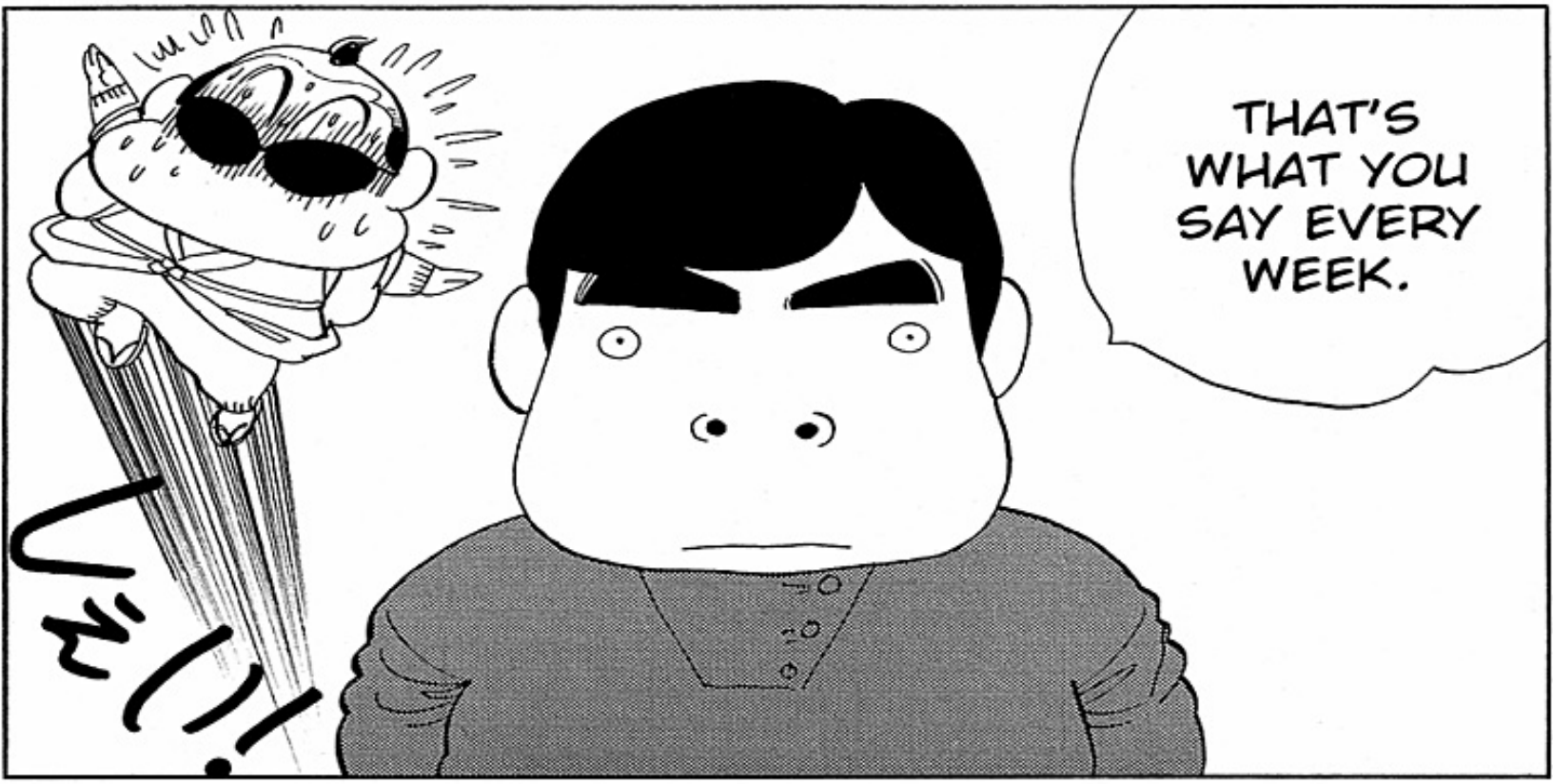


(Note) Honey appears in Mayumi Yoshida's manga that was serialized in Young Magazine.

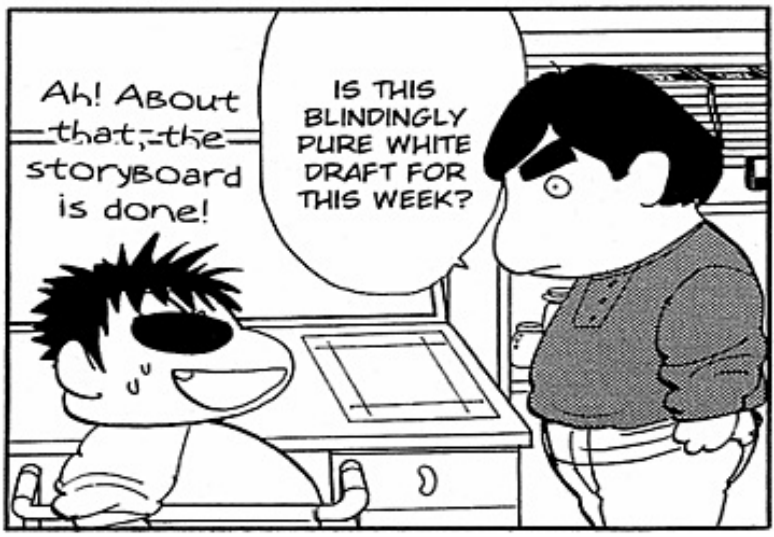
TL note: Gorou Noguchi is a singer and actor.

YOU'RE SO GLOOMY WHEN YOU'RE DOING THE STORYBOARD.
SHEESH... GOROU NOGUCHI IS ALREADY PRETTY GLOOMY...
I can't do anything about it, so I guess I'll sleep..
WHAT THE?
Whoa.. You're killing me, man.
YOU'RE STILL ON THE STORY-BOARD?
APOLLO
SNOOORE
ガタッ
I'm scared that I'm used to it...
Snore... Snore...
To my mom in Chigasaki, this is how I'm living my life.
SINCE THERE'S A LOT OF FREE TIME IN KOTOBUKI STUDIO, ALL OF THE ASSISTANTS...HAVE MASTERED THE SKILL OF BEING ABLE TO FALL ASLEEP RIGHT AWAY AT ANY TIME IN ANY PLACE...
Hey! Kou-saku!
What is it!?
Gaah!
N..No way.
Stop
UH!
Sweat
Sweat
UGAAAH! EVEN IF I DO IT IN A HURRY,
THE ONLY THING COMING OUT IS SWEAT!
* This blank space depicts my mental state.


HE'S ALWAYS BEEN THAT WAY.
(ACCORDING TO) MOTHER, "SUEKO EGUCHI-SAN"
AHHH, MAN! IF ONLY I HADN'T GOOFED OFF DURING WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, I WOULDN'T BE HAVING SUCH A HARD TIME TODAY!


THAT'S WHAT YOU SAY EVERY WEEK.
しぇ!!

AHHH! I KNOW! I HAVEN'T INTRODUCED YOU TO THE READERS YET, NAKAHIRA-SAN!
WHAT A LOAD OF CRAP.

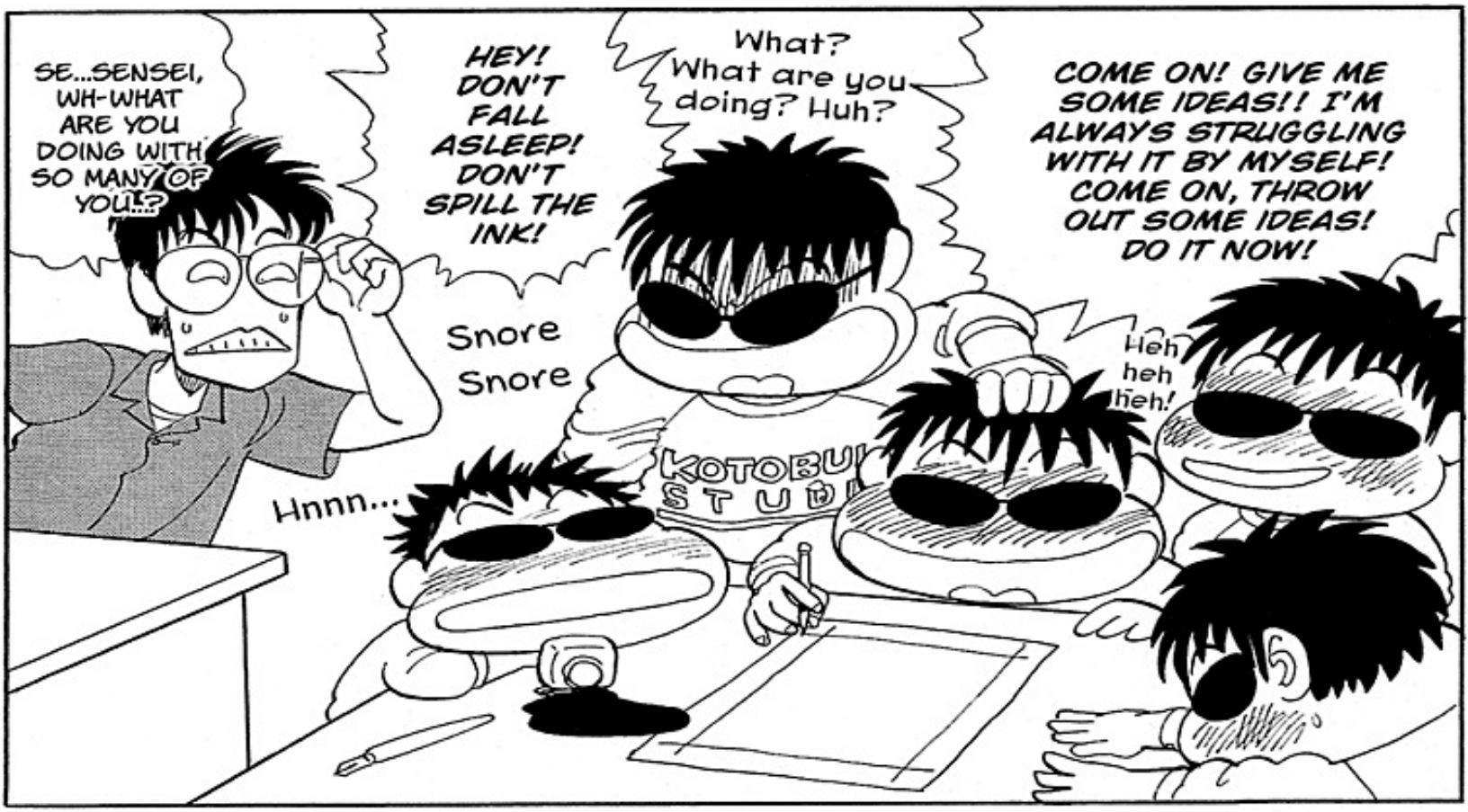

Ah! About that, the storyboard is done!
IS THIS BLINDINGLY PURE WHITE DRAFT FOR THIS WEEK?

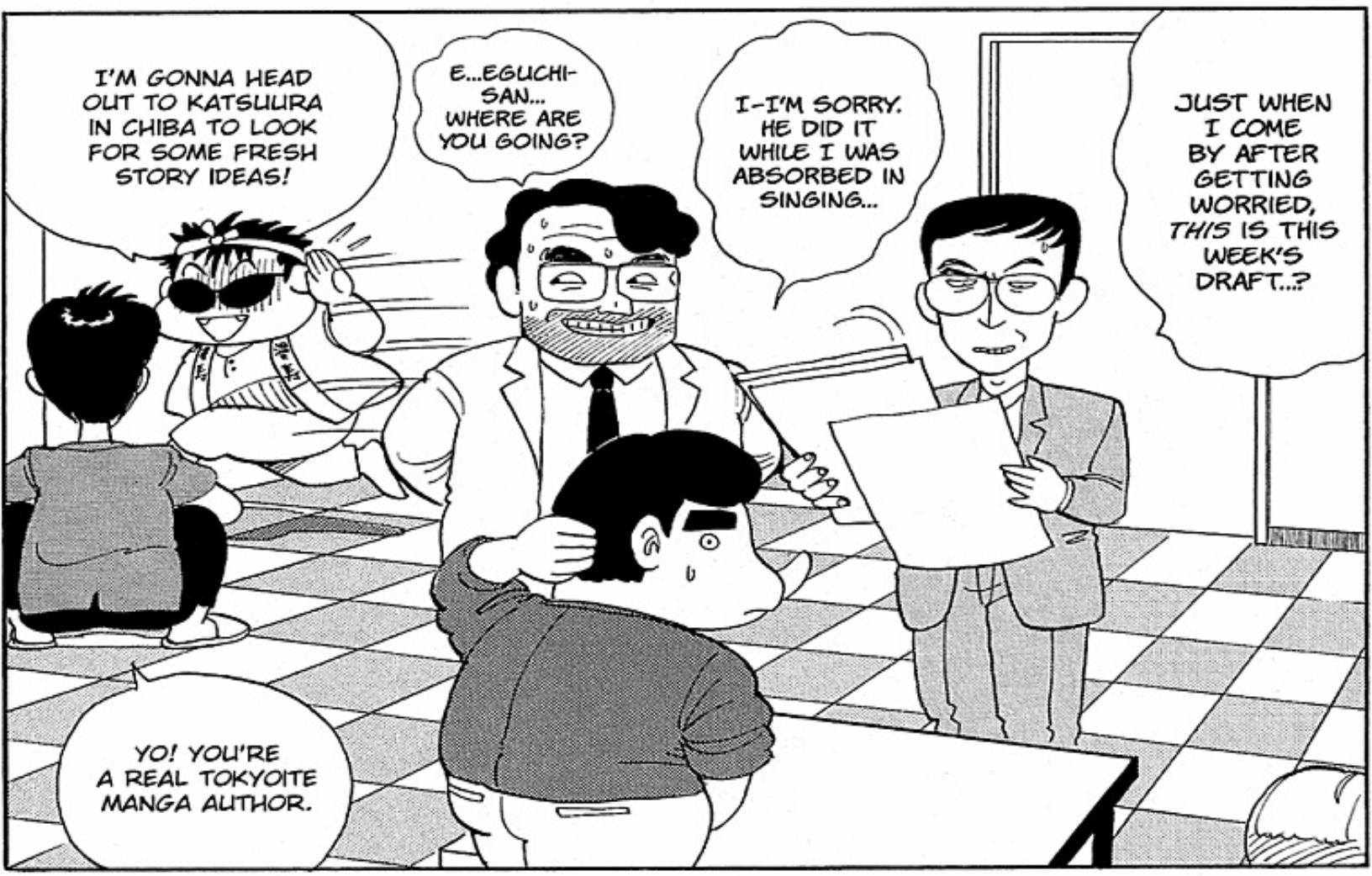
↓ Laughing
WHAT AM I? A MONSTER?
THIS IS HOW HE LOOKS WHEN HE'S SMILING, SO DON'T BE SCARED OF HIM.
HELLO, I'M NAKAHIRA. GUFAH! GUFAH! GUFAH!
THIS IS MY NEW EDITOR, MAKOTO NAKAHIRA (26), AND HE'S SINGLE.
KOTOBUKI STUDIO
THEY DIED FROM OVERWORK AND SHOCK.
FOR SOME REASON, ALL OF MY EDITORS HAVE PASSED AWAY. I HAVE NO IDEA WHY, THOUGH.
Oku-waki.
Ko-shino.
Taka-hashi
Ho-rie
Kun-ta
Wata-nabe
YOU GOT THAT RIGHT. I'M THE SEVENTH ONE YOU'VE HAD.
BUT WELL, IT'S PRETTY RARE TO FIND A MANGA AUTHOR WHO'S CHANGED EDITORS AS MUCH AS I HAVE.
Bitter smile
KOTOBUKI
PLEASE DO.
ALL RIGHT! THEN I'M GONNA START DRAWING AT ANY RATE, SO WAIT OVER THERE!
KOTOBUKI TUDIO
Huh? Time to eat?
COME ON! WAKE UP, HONEY!
DO THOSE ARM GESTURES MEAN YOU'RE IN A PANIC...?
BUT WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO BE DOING STUFF LIKE THIS!
THEN LOOK LIKE YOU'RE ABOUT TO CRY!
I'M COUNTING ON YOU! I'M ALREADY ON THE VERGE OF TEARS!

WHAT'S WRONG? WHY AREN'T YOU INKING IT IN?
HM?
URGH... I HAVE TO THINK OF HOW TO CONTINUE THIS RIGHT AWAY!
Leave it to me!
FOR NOW, INK IN THE FIRST PANEL.
Click
FINE THEN! I'LL PUT ON SOME MUSIC, SO JUST GET INTO IT!
KOTOBUKI STUDIO
YOU HAVE TO FEEL INTO IT WHEN YOU'RE INKING IN?
だあっ!
I'M NOT REALLY FEELING INTO IT.
EVEN IF HIS VOICE GETS INTO IT, IT'S SCARY THAT HIS FACE DOESN'T GET INTO IT AT ALL...
He's really into it!
WHAT THE? NAKAHIRA-SAN'S A REALLY GOOD SINGER!
Fly into the southern sky! It's so dazzling!
KOTOBUKI STUDIO
The story of a young couple falling in love on the beach!
I love you!

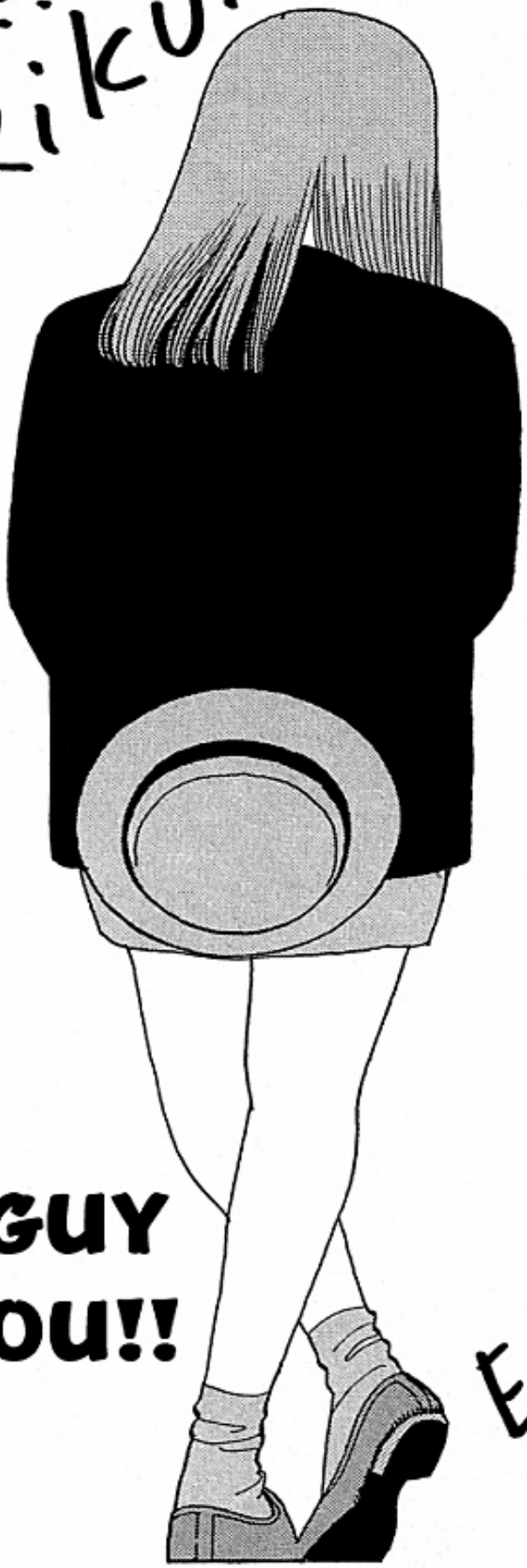
Editors who sing while on duty are also rare.

THAT'S WHY I'M HAVING SUCH A HARD TIME TODAY ON SUNDAY!!
THIS IS ALL BECAUSE I GOOF OFF ON WEDNESDAYS, THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS!
KOTOBUKI STUDIO
ERRRRM! I...I CAN'T DO IT!!
ON THURSDAYS, I PARTY WITH MY RELATIVES.
You're flying!
Kyahahaha! Wahaha! Eguchi-san!
ME FROM THURSDAY!
Whoa! What!?
COME WITH ME!
Huh? Who are you?
ON WEDNESDAYS, I PARTY AFTER WORK.
HEY! ME FROM WEDNESDAY!
ON SATURDAYS, I GO BEDDY-BYE AFTER WEARING MYSELF OUT FROM DRINKING.
HEY! ME FROM SATURDAY! WAKE UP!
Urgh!
KICK!
ON FRIDAYS, I PARTY WITH THE MANGA AUTHORS IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD.
ME FROM FRIDAY! COME HERE!


SE...SENSEI, WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH SO MANY OF YOU!?
HEY! DON'T FALL ASLEEP! DON'T SPILL THE INK!
What? What are you doing? Huh?
COME ON! GIVE ME SOME IDEAS!! I'M ALWAYS STRUGGLING WITH IT BY MYSELF! COME ON, THROW OUT SOME IDEAS! DO IT NOW!
Snore
Snore
Hnnn...
Heh heh heh!
KOTOBUKI STUDIO


I'M GONNA HEAD OUT TO KATSUURA IN CHIBA TO LOOK FOR SOME FRESH STORY IDEAS!
E...EGUCHI-SAN... WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
I-I'M SORRY. HE DID IT WHILE I WAS ABSORBED IN SINGING...
JUST WHEN I COME BY AFTER GETTING WORRIED, THIS IS THIS WEEK'S DRAFT...?
YO! YOU'RE A REAL TOKYOITE MANGA AUTHOR.

STOP!! HIBARIKUN!



TOUGH GUY GEKIJIROU!!

Eguchi Hisashi

KOTOBUKI STUDIO PRESENTS

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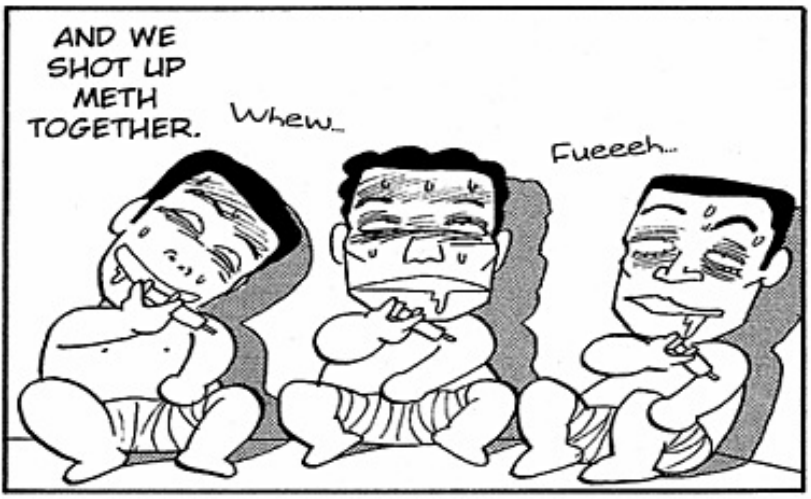
I'M GOING TO REVEAL MY SECRET, BUT PLEASE KEEP IT JUST BETWEEN US.
Chirp...
Chirp
Chirp...
Shinnnng
AAACHI!
JOWAAA
Twirl
Twirl
WHAT!? WE'RE GONNA LOOK AFTER ANOTHER GUY!?
THERE'S NOTHING TO DO THIS TIME AROUND...
SO WHAT?

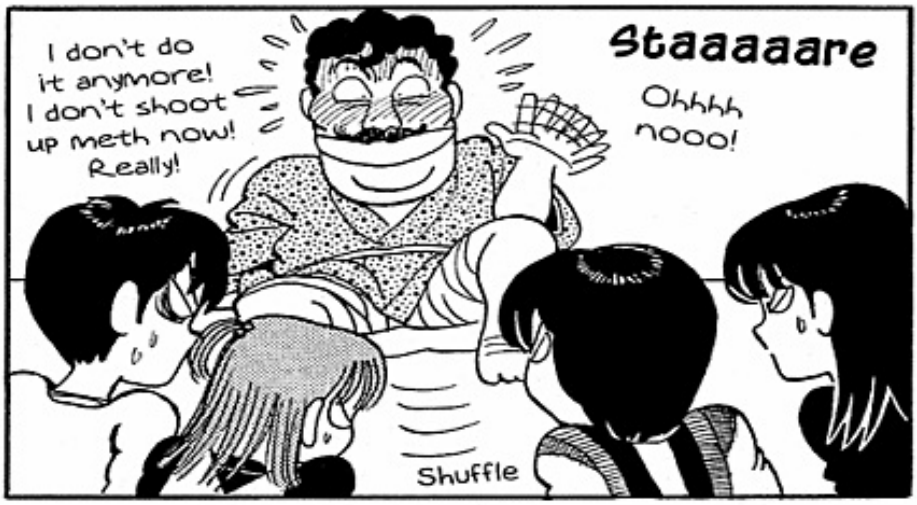
HOW CLICHE.
THAT'S THE ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM!
THAT'S SO OLD!
YOU HIT THE NAIL ON THE HEAD!
UM, IS IT ANOTHER GUY OTHER THAN ME?
THE TRUTH IS, BACK IN THE OLD DAYS...
ZOMBIE!
DON'T BE SO STUBBORN, SIR!
THAT'S THE ZOMBIE IN THE ROOM!
Ahhh! Urrrgh!
Waaaa! You're scaring me!
Gaaah!
YEAH, THAT'S IT!
You have a great voice!
THAT'S WHAT YOU MEAN, RIGHT?
sworn brothers share a strong vow!
Compared to brothers who share the same parents,
WHAT'S A SWORN BRO-THER?
You're good, Tsubame-san
I HAD TWO SWORN BROTHERS.
Puff...

WE WERE TIED TOGETHER WITH A VERY STRONG SENSE OF TRUST AND FRIENDSHIP...
Ibari Oozora
THE THREE OF US WERE CALLED THE TYPHOON BROTHERS, AND WE WERE SOMETHING TO BE RECKONED WITH IN THE MOB WORLD.
Typhoon Brothers
Joe Akashi
Yasujirou Taiga

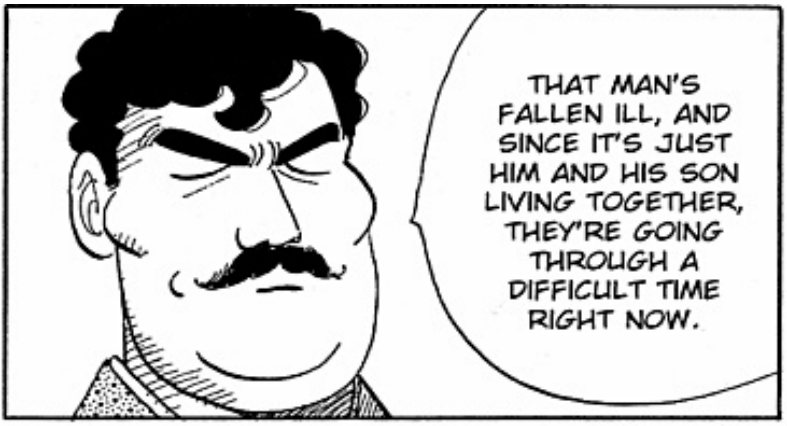


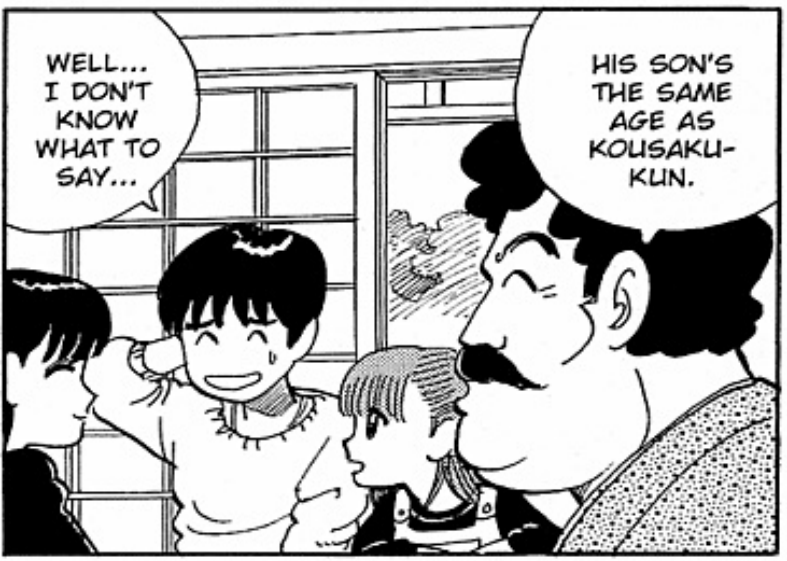
† What are they doing?

WE LIVED AND DIED AS ONE, SO AS LONG AS THE WE WERE TOGETHER, THERE WAS NOTHING TO FEAR.
WHEN THERE WAS A FIGHT, THE THREE OF US ALWAYS LED THE PACK...



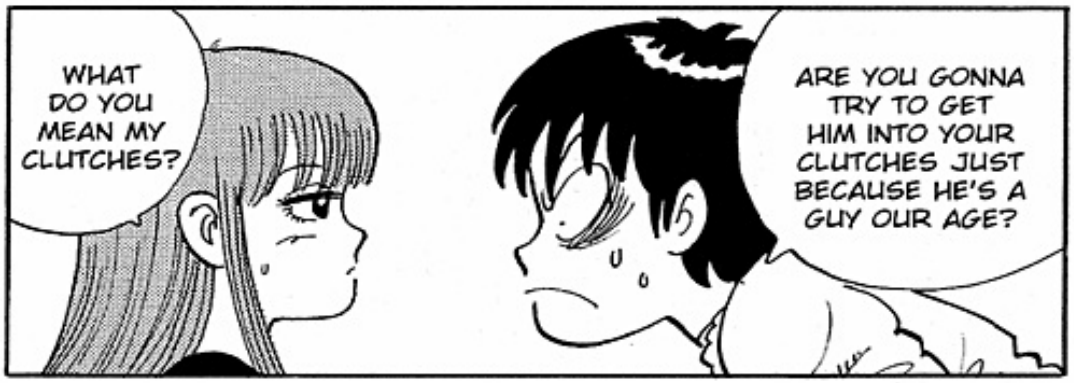
YEAH! WE'RE NOT JUST FRIENDS! WE'RE BROTHERS!!
WE'RE BROTHERS UNTIL WE DIE!
WHAT, BROTHER!?
HEY, BROTHERS!!
WE OFTEN TALKED OVER DRINKS.
WE'LL BOTH COME HELP YOU!!
IF I GET INTO A JAM...
WE'LL BOTH COME HELP YOU!
IF I'M IN TROUBLE...
We're brothers!! It makes us want to tease you because we love you! We were just kidding...
IT WAS A JOKE! A JOKE!!
WE'LL BOTH LOOK THE OTHER WAY!
IF I FALL ILL...
UH! UH! UH!
LET'S HELP EACH OTHER OUT FOR THE REST OF OUR LIVES!
AT ANY RATE, NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS IN THE FUTURE, THE THREE OF US ARE SWORN BROTHERS!

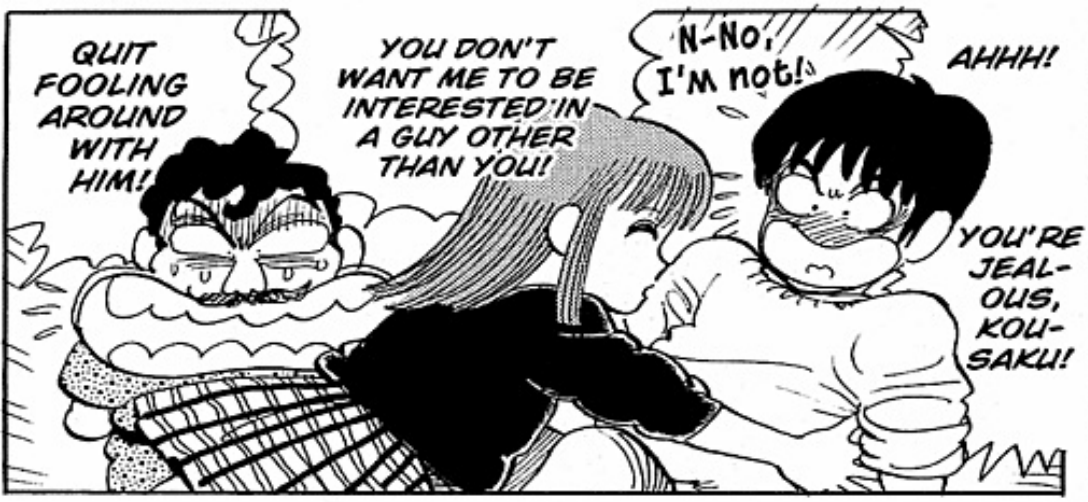


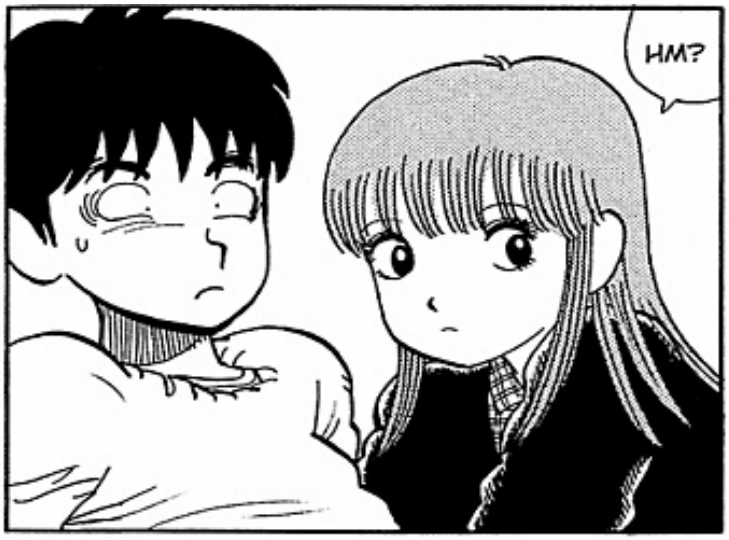


WOW! WHY'S THAT?
AND SO ONE OF THOSE BROTHERS, YASUJIROU TAIGA, ASKED ME TO LOOK AFTER HIS ONLY SON...
I KIND OF HAVE A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS...

Why does that make you sheepish?



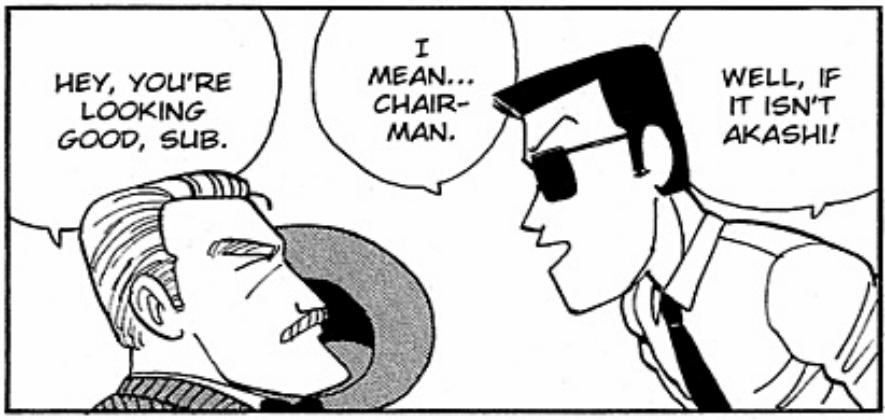

QUIT FOOLING AROUND WITH HIM!
YOU DON'T WANT ME TO BE INTERESTED IN A GUY OTHER THAN YOU!
N-No, I'm not!
AHHH!
YOU'RE JEAL-OUS, KOU-SAKU!

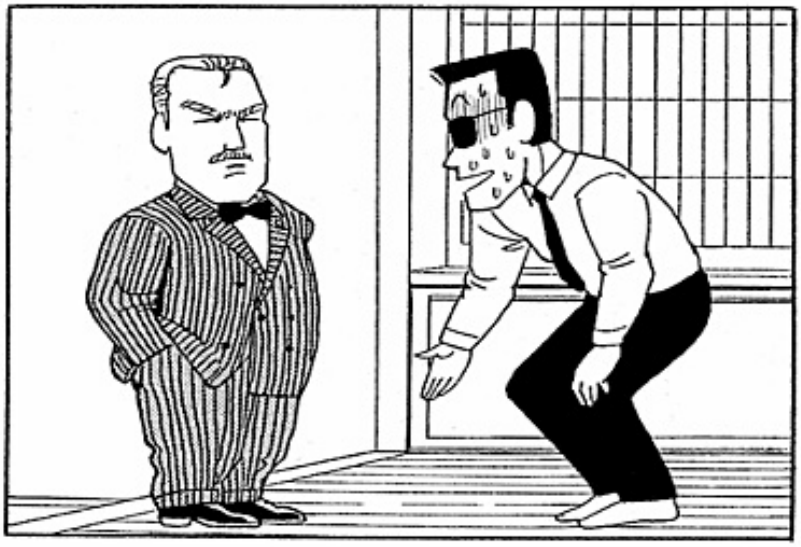

HM?

ISN'T THE SORT OF GUY WHO'D FALL INTO YOUR CLUTCHES...
EH HEH HEH! TAIGA'S SON
Grin

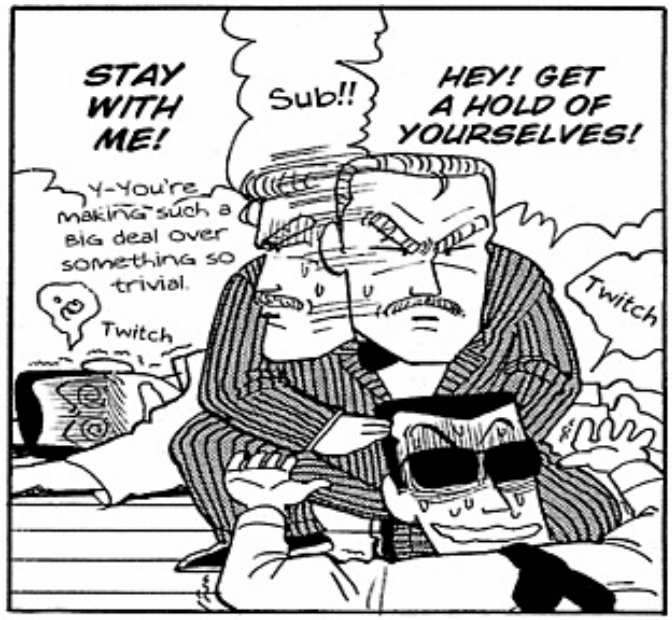
THOUGH HAVING SAID THAT, BY NO MEANS DOES THAT MEAN I'M APOLOGIZING.
He has to say this.
EXCUSE ME!

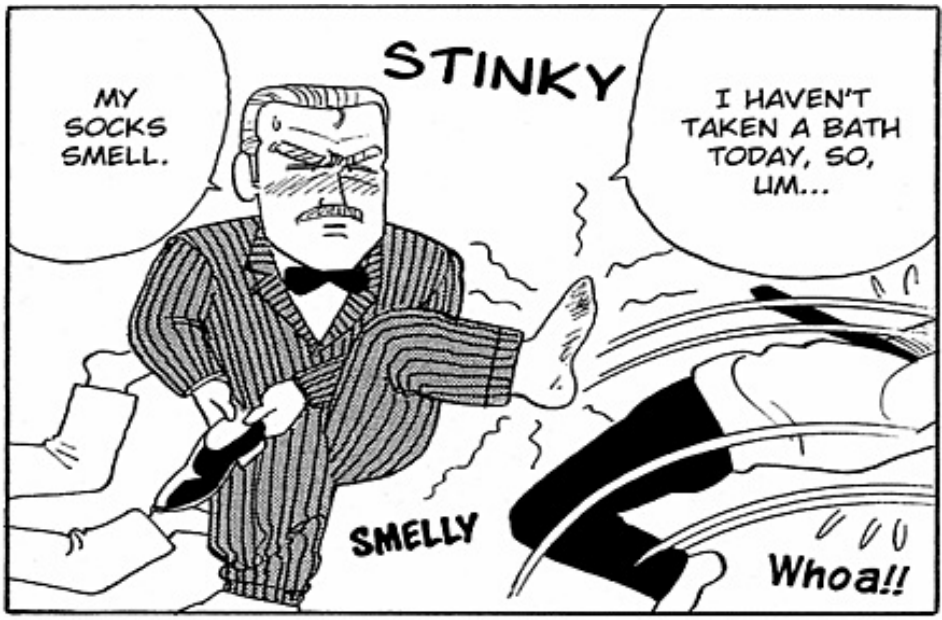
HMPH.
PLEASE COME IN!


HEY, YOU'RE LOOKING GOOD, SUB.
I MEAN... CHAIR-MAN.
WELL, IF IT ISN'T AKASHI!

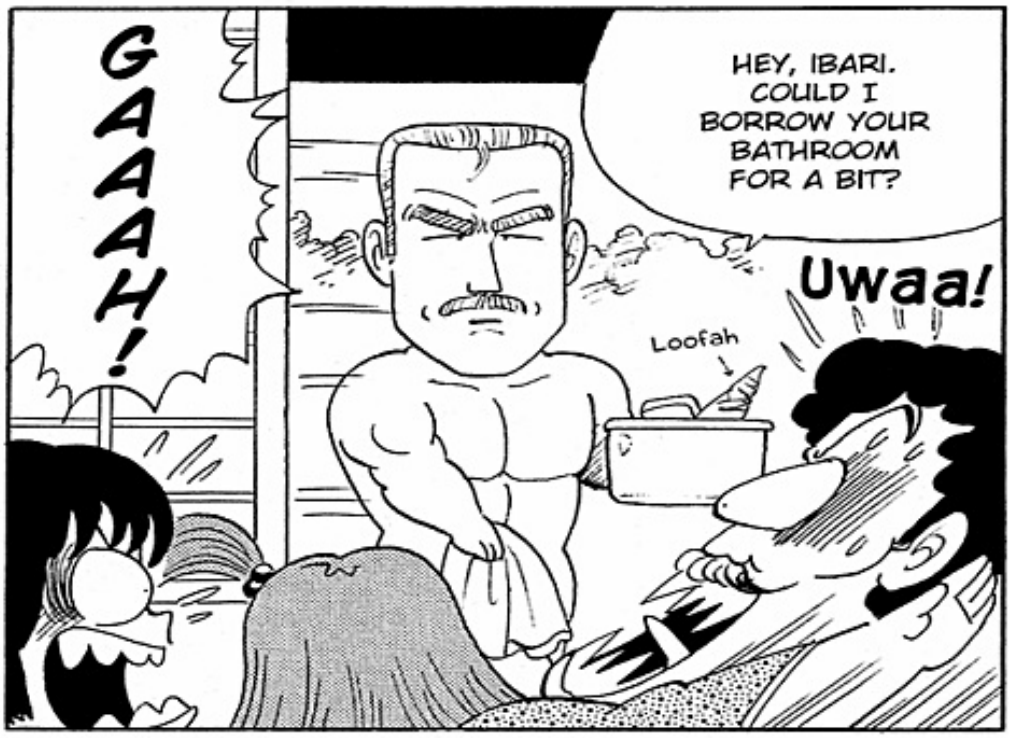


TAKE OFF YOUR SHOES ...
YOU HAVE TO, UH...
UM...

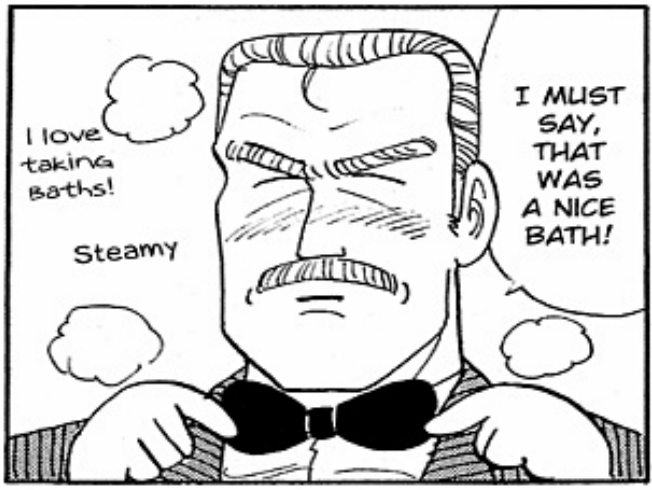

STAY WITH ME!
Sub!!
HEY! GET A HOLD OF YOURSELVES!
Y-You're making such a big deal over something so trivial.
Twitch
Twitch

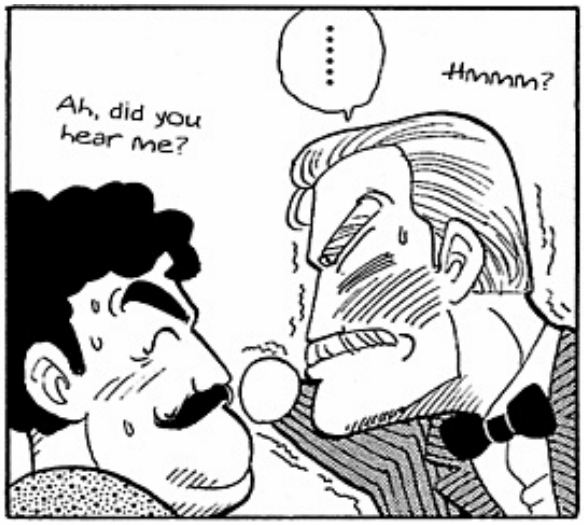

MY SOCKS SMELL.
STINKY
I HAVEN'T TAKEN A BATH TODAY, SO, UM...
SMELLY
Whoa!!

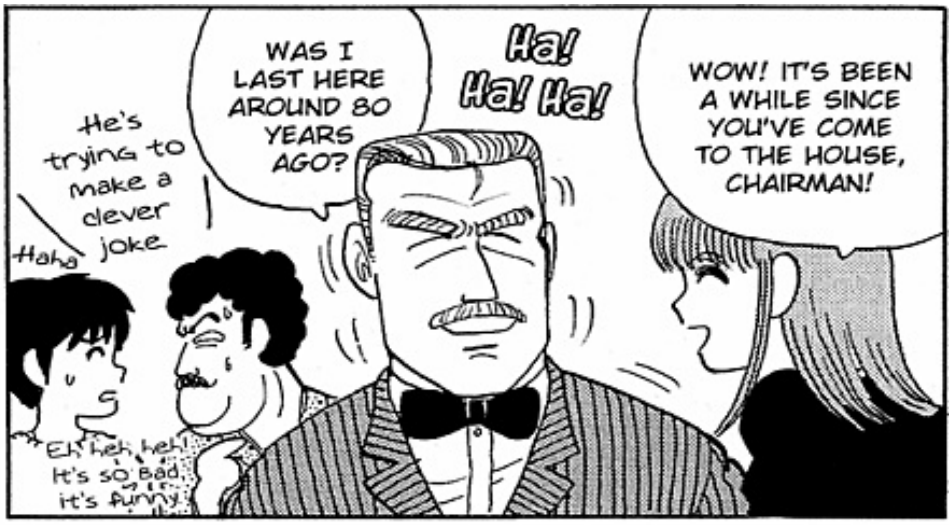
W...WELL, SORRY ABOUT THAT. ALL OF YOUR HENCHMEN DROPPED DEAD FROM MY STINKY SOCKS...
D-DON'T SHOW UP NAKED ALL OF A SUDDEN!
YOU MORON!


GAAAH!
HEY, IBARI. COULD I BORROW YOUR BATHROOM FOR A BIT?
Uwaa!
Loofah

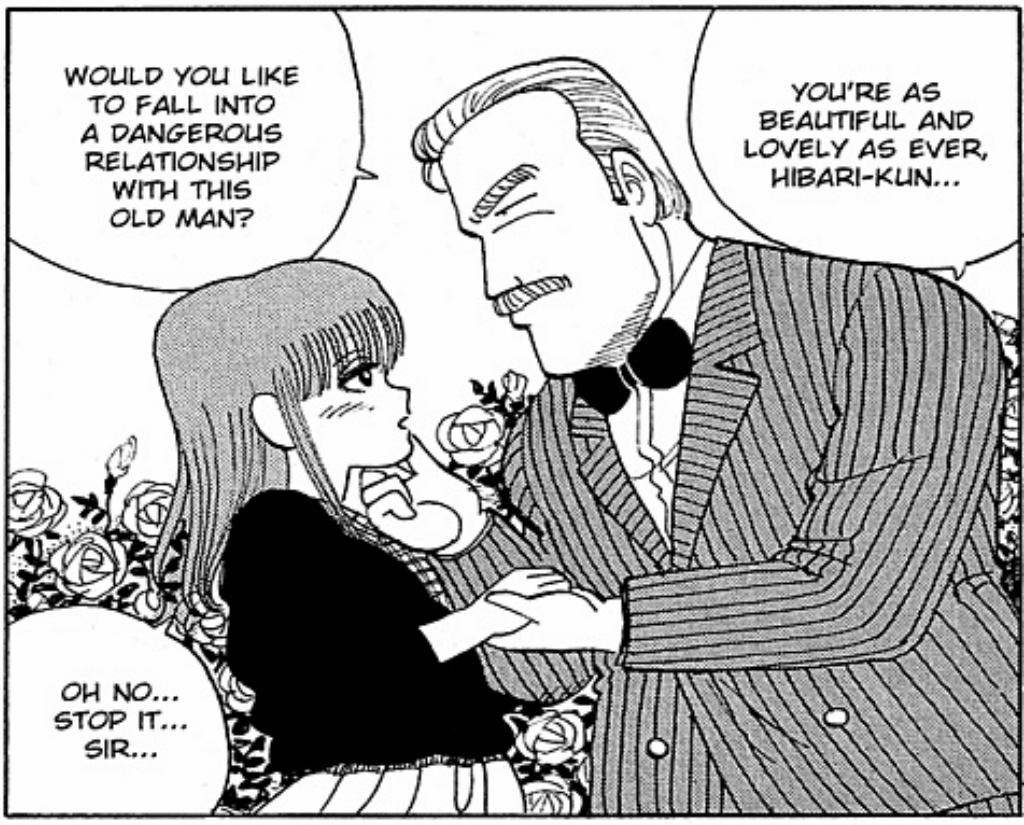
I'LL PASS!
WOULD YOU LIKE A SNIFF?
Ohh, what a nice, soapy scent. Sniff
YEAH! IT'S ALL RIGHT NOW!
Are you an idiot!?

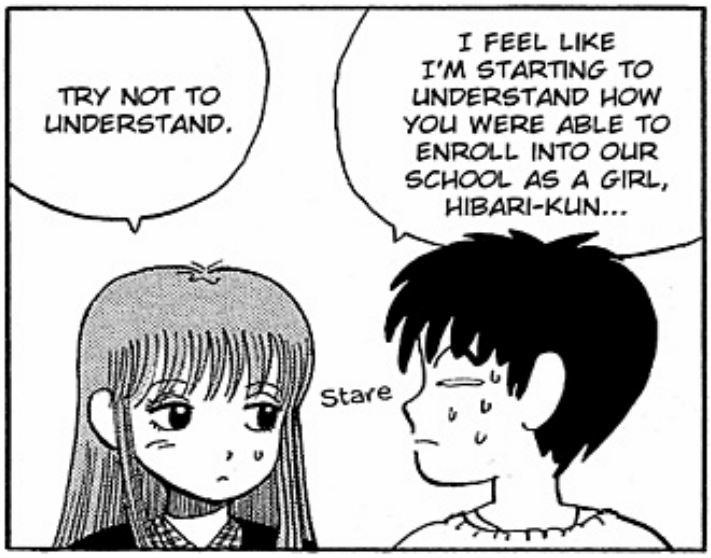

I love taking baths!
Steamy
I MUST SAY, THAT WAS A NICE BATH!

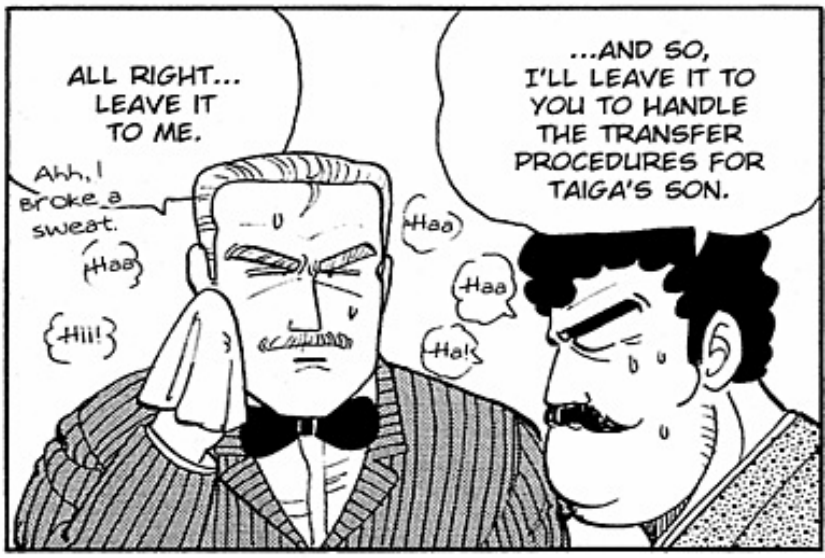

Ah, did you hear me?
.....
Hmmm?

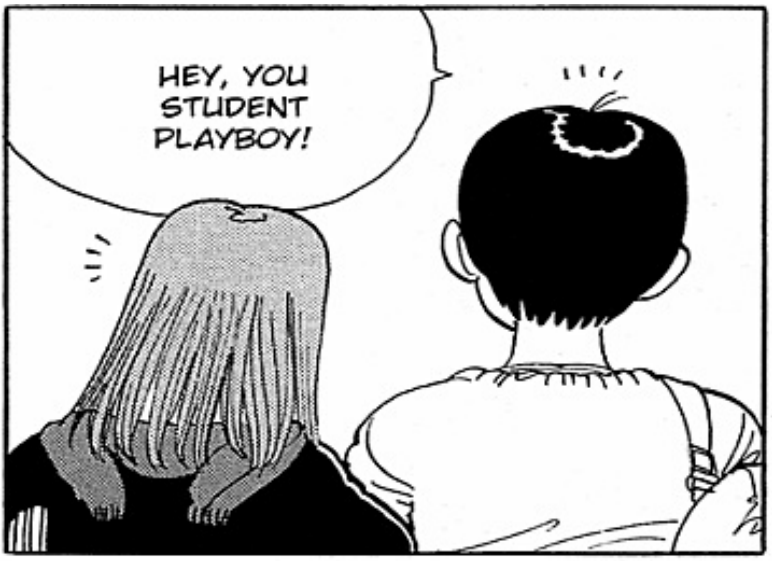

He's trying to make a clever joke
Haha
WAS I LAST HERE AROUND 80 YEARS AGO?
Ha! Ha! Ha!
WOW! IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE YOU'VE COME TO THE HOUSE, CHAIRMAN!
Eh heh heh! It's so bad, it's funny.

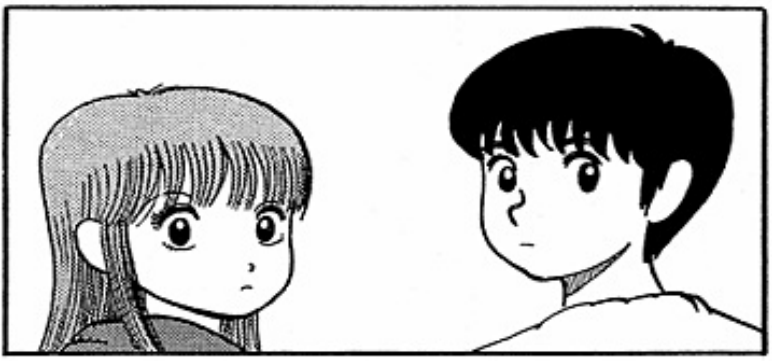
Hiiii! Haaa! Hiiii!

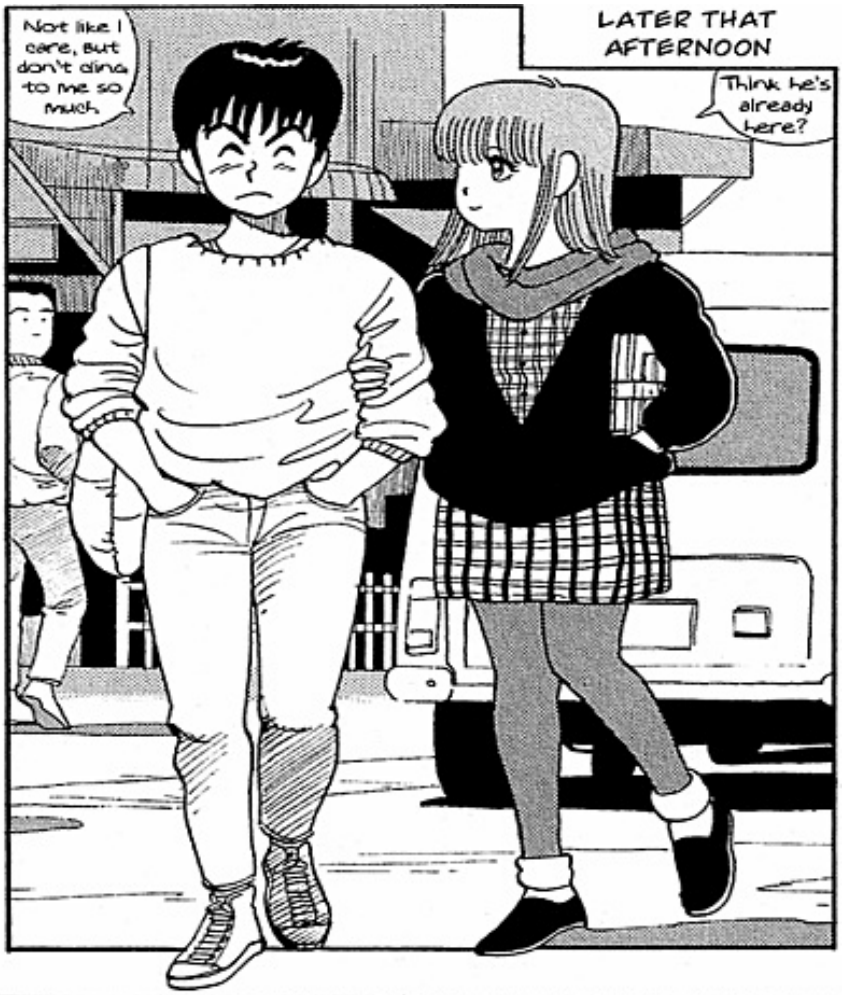

WOULD YOU LIKE TO FALL INTO A DANGEROUS RELATIONSHIP WITH THIS OLD MAN?
YOU'RE AS BEAUTIFUL AND LOVELY AS EVER, HIBARI-KUN...
OH NO... STOP IT... SIR...


TRY NOT TO UNDERSTAND.
I FEEL LIKE I'M STARTING TO UNDERSTAND HOW YOU WERE ABLE TO ENROLL INTO OUR SCHOOL AS A GIL, HIBARI-KUN...
Stare


ALL RIGHT... LEAVE IT TO ME.
...AND SO, I'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU TO HANDLE THE TRANSFER PROCEDURES FOR TAIGA'S SON.
Ahh, I broke a sweat.
Haa
Haa
Haa
Haa
Hii!
Ha!

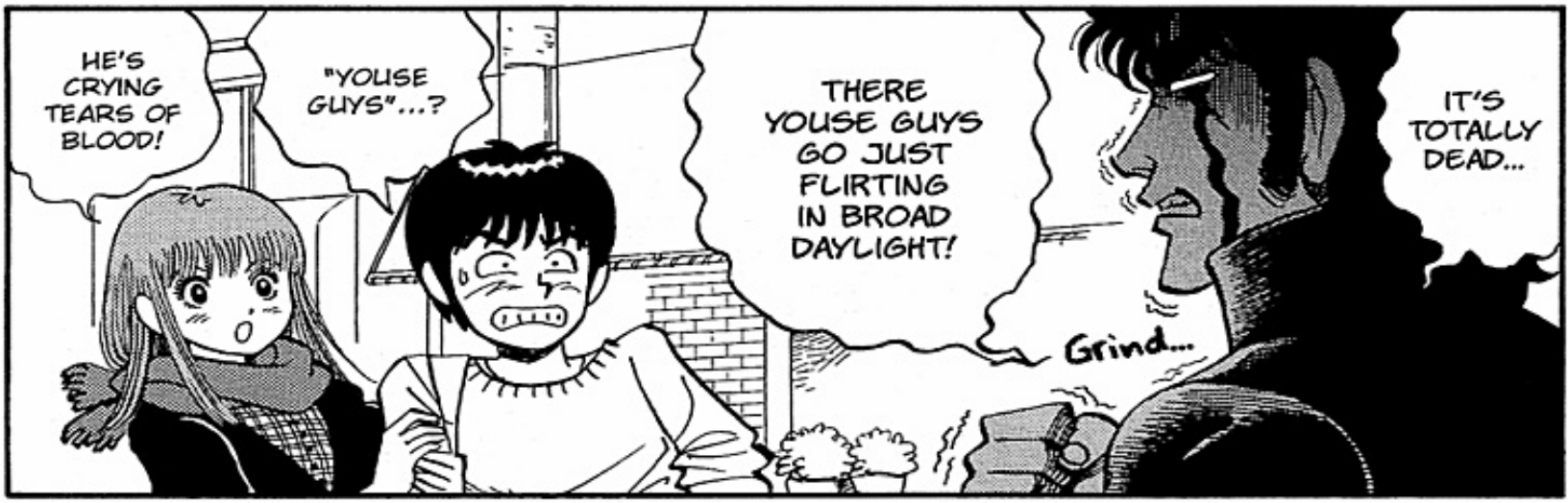

HEY, YOU STUDENT PLAYBOY!

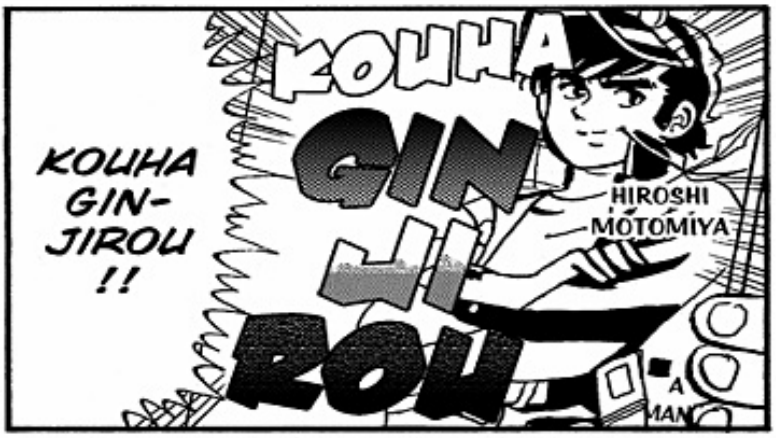



LATER THAT AFTERNOON
Not like I care, but don't cling to me so much.
Think he's already here?

WHOA!

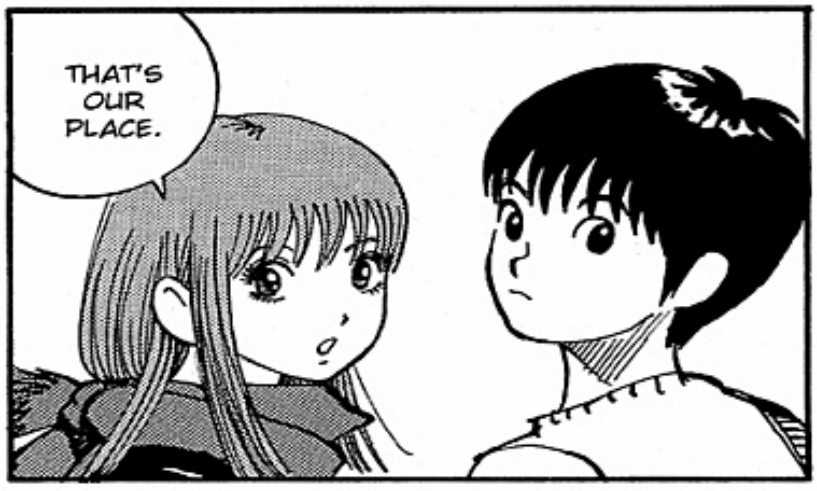
BOY'S MANGA IS DEAD ...!
Uhhhhgh...
Shake
Shake
Shake
Shake


HE'S CRYING TEARS OF BLOOD!
"YOUSE GUYS"...?
THERE YOUSE GUYS GO JUST FLIRTING IN BROAD DAYLIGHT!
Grind...
IT'S TOTALLY DEAD...



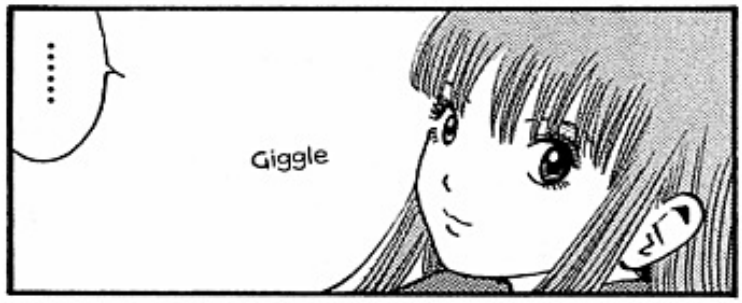
TL notes: Otoko Ippiki Gaki Daishou means "An Exemplary Bully" or "An Exemplary Boss of the Children". Kouha Ginjirou means "Tough Guy Ginjirou".

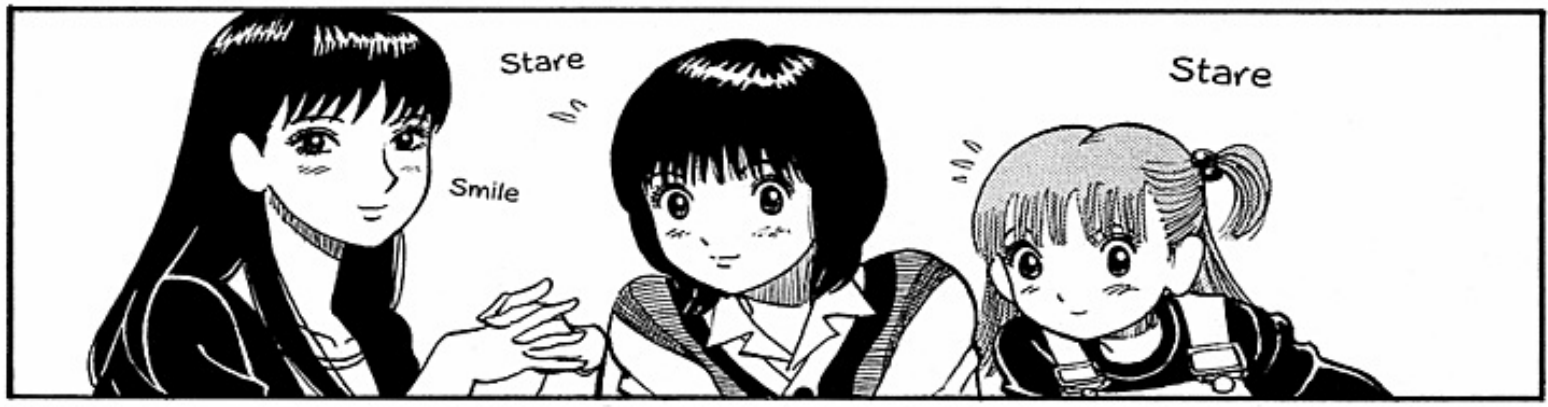
HEY! WAIT! DON'T LEAVE ME BEHIND!
I have Otokogi, too!
I HAVE EVERY VOLUME! WANT ME TO LET YOU READ THEM!? OR WE COULD DO IT BY BRUTE FORCE!



WHY DO YOU HAVE TO YELL ABOUT EVERYTHING?
THEN TAKE ME THERE!

WHAAAT!?


.....
Giggle


Stare
Smile
Stare

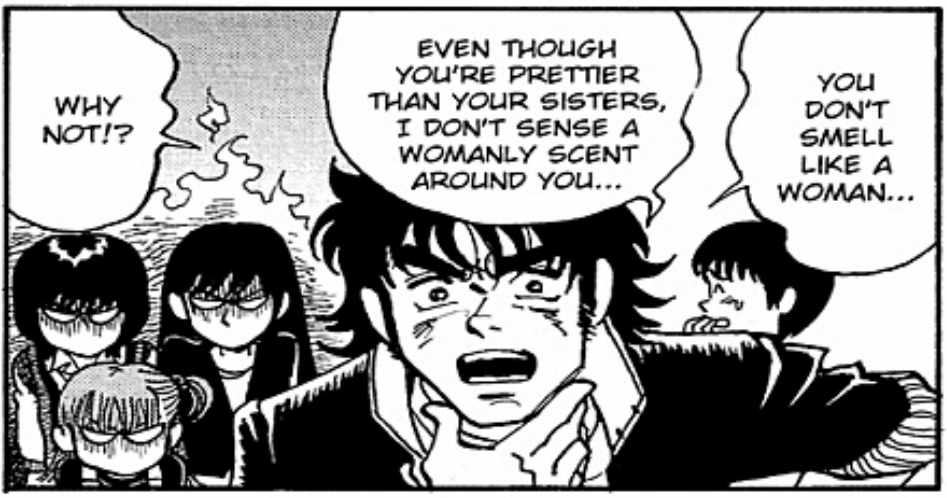
GEKI-JIROU !!
NOW, NOW. JUST UNPACK YOUR STUFF AND RELAX, GEKI-CHA...

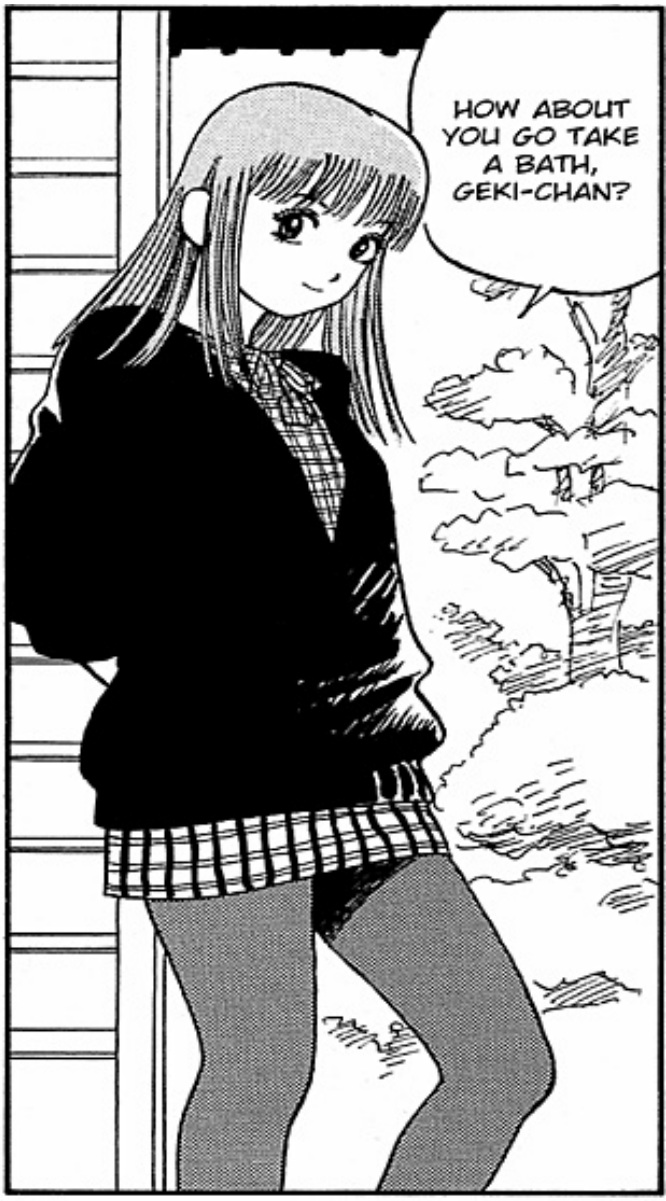
BUT INSTEAD IT REEKS OF WOMEN, AND IT'S SO HOMEY HERE...
It's throwing me off...
WHEN I HEARD THIS WAS A MOB HOUSE, I THOUGHT IT WAS GONNA REEK OF MANLINESS...

BUT STILL...

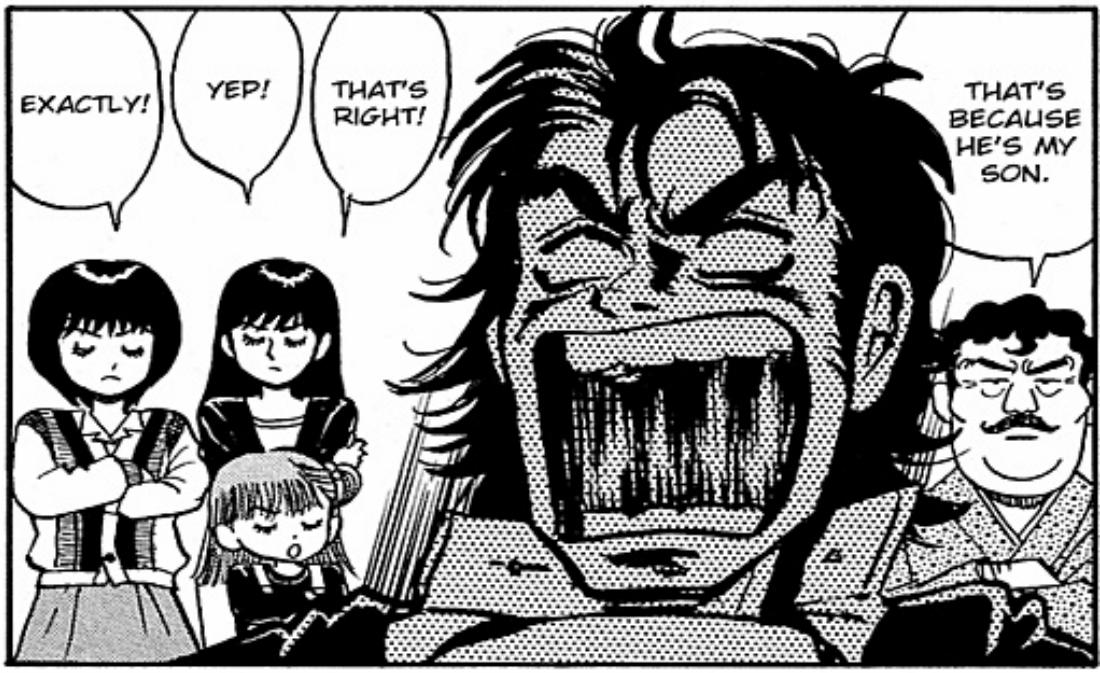
HM!?
DON'T CALL ME GEKI-CHAN!

WHAT?


WHY NOT!?
EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE PRETTIER THAN YOUR SISTERS, I DON'T SENSE A WOMANLY SCENT AROUND YOU...
YOU DON'T SMELL LIKE A WOMAN...


HOW ABOUT YOU GO TAKE A BATH, GEKI-CHAN?

IT'D JUST BE YOU GUYS.
KOUSAKU, WHY DON'T YOU TWO TAKE A BATH TOGETHER?


EXACTLY!
YEP!
THAT'S RIGHT!
THAT'S BECAUSE HE'S MY SON.

I DON'T WANT TO TAKE A BATH WITH YOU, EITHER! I'M JUST SHOWING YOU WHERE IT IS!
HEY, YOU ROMANTIC COMEDY BASTARD! I'M NOT GOING IN WITH YOU! DON'T MAKE ME SICK!
THE BATH'S THIS WAY!

THIS IS KIND OF THROWING ME OUT OF WHACK.

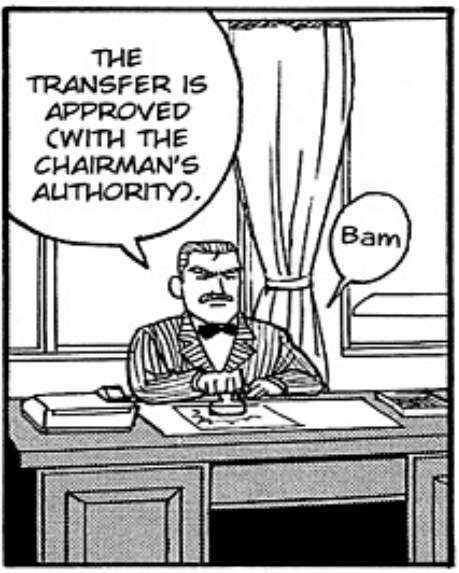
'KAY.
WELL, LATER. TAKE YOUR TIME.

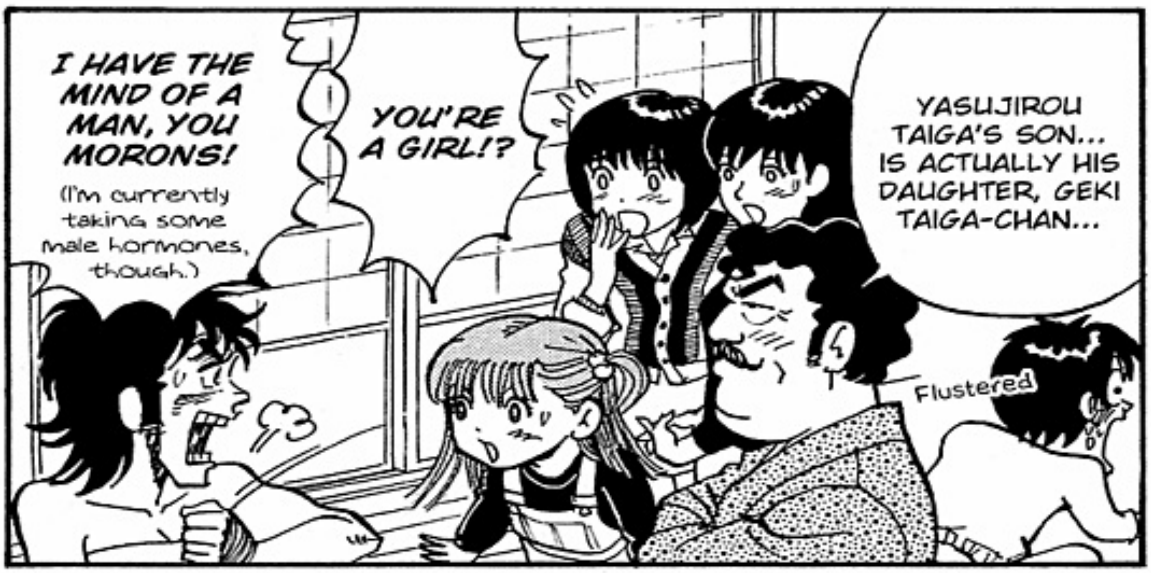
THEY'RE ON THAT SHELF...

AH,

AND IF YOU NEED A TOWEL...
Rattle...

KYAAAA!
!!


THE TRANSFER IS APPROVED (WITH THE CHAIRMAN'S AUTHORITY).
Bam


I HAVE THE MIND OF A MAN, YOU MORONS!
(I'm currently taking some male hormones, though.)
YOU'RE A GIRL!?
YASUJIROU TAIGA'S SON... IS ACTUALLY HIS DAUGHTER, GEKI TAIGA-CHAN...
Flustered

YEAH!
It's so nice out!
IT'S NOTHING FOR YOU TO WORRY ABOUT.
Haaa...
MOM... MY LIFE IS GETTING MORE AND MORE ABSURD...

Original Publication List

A SHOCKING ENCOUNTER!!
October 19, 1981 issue

A GIRL!? A BOY!!
October 26, 1981 issue

SHE'S !? AN IDOL!
November 2, 1981 issue

ACT LIKE A MAN!
November 9, 1981 issue

SHE'S !? SUPERMAN (HIBARI BECOMES A GUY!?)
November 16, 1981 issue

THE SECRET'S OUT!?
November 23, 1981 issue

LOOK CAREFULLY! HIBARI-KUN!!
November 30, 1981 issue

KOUSAKU-KUN MAKES UP HIS MIND
December 7, 1981 issue

PUT LOVE IN THE RING!!
January 1 & 4, 1982 issue

PUT LOVE IN THE RING!! 2 (PUT LOVE IN THE RING NO.②)
January 11, 1982 issue

KUJUKURI OF LOVE!!
January 18, 1982 issue

YOUTHFUL FIRST SUNRISE!!
January 25, 1982 issue

THIS IS A PROBLEM (PROBLEM NO.①)
February 1, 1982 issue

SUZUME'S BOYFRIEND
February 8, 1982 issue

GOING IN!
February 15, 1982 issue

NOT GOING IN!
February 22, 1982 issue

HEART BREAK VALENTINE
March 1, 1982 issue

* Serialized in "Weekly Shounen Jump" (Shueisha)
* The titles in parentheses are from when they were published in the magazine.

Original Publication List

AN UNINVITED GUEST
March 8, 1982 issue

AN UNINVITED GUEST II 〈INCLUDED AS "AN UNINVITED GUEST"〉
March 15, 1982 issue

DAD'S OLD PHOTO ALBUM
March 22, 1982 issue

CAMPUS TAKARAZUKA (THE CAPTAIN APPEARS!)
March 29, 1982 issue

YOUTH WITHOUT U-TURNS!
April 12, 1982 issue

J'S CONFESSION 〈NEWLY DRAWN MATERIAL INCLUDED〉
April 12, 1982 issue

I WANT TO BE A GUY! 〈INCLUDED AS "J'S CONFESSION"〉
April 26, 1982 issue

POOLSIDE EXCITEMENT!
August 16, 1982 issue

POOLSIDE MISSION
August 23, 1982 issue

SUMMER SUSPICIONS (NAI NAI NAI) 〈IN THIS BOOK, IT USES THE TITLE PAGE FROM "I WANT TO BE A GUY!"〉
August 30, 1982 issue

YOUTHFUL CAMP-IN (CAMP IN!)
September 6, 1982 issue

YOUTH IS A TEST OF COURAGE (YOUTH IS A TEST OF COURAGE!)
September 13, 1982 issue

A STORM IS HERE!!
September 20, 1982 issue

THE WIND RISES
September 27, 1982 issue

KOUSAKU-KUN, GO FOR IT!!
October 4, 1982 issue

ROMEO AND JULIET: MOB EDITION (PART I)
October 11, 1982 issue

ROMEO AND JULIET: MOB EDITION (PART 1.5) 〈INCLUDED AS "ROMEO AND JULIET: MOB EDITION (PART 2)〉
October 18, 1982 issue

ROMEO AND JULIET: MOB EDITION (PART 2) (ROMEO AND JULIET: MOB EDITION (FINAL PART))
October 25, 1982 issue

ALL RIGHT!! FINALLY OUR FIRST DATE!!
November 1, 1982 issue

ONE-TWO PUNCH OF LOVE (AS LONG AS YOU HAVE LOVE, THIRD BASE IS NOTHING!)
November 8, 1982 issue

THE TRICKS OF LOVE
November 15, 1982 issue

* Serialized in "Weekly Shounen Jump" (Shueisha)
* The titles in parentheses are from when they were published in the magazine.

Original Publication List

LOVE TARGET!!
November 22, 1982 issue

SHE'S (!?) MINE (THE POPULAR TRIO APPEARS!!) 〈NEWLY CORRECTED AND REVISED VERSION INCLUDED〉
November 29, 1982 issue

POPULAR ATTACK 〈INCLUDED AS "SHE'S (!?) MINE"〉
December 6, 1982 issue

THE NOTED COUPLE
December 13 & 20, 1982 issue

COUNT OUT OF LOVE 〈INCLUDED AS "THE NOTED COUPLE"〉
January 1, 1983 issue

EVERYONE'S INVITED FOR CHRISTMAS 〈SOME OF IT INCLUDED IN THE BONUS TRACK〉
January 8, 1983 issue

MERRY NINTH MEMORIAL SERVICE
January 10 & 17, 1983 issue

IT'S NEW YEAR'S! AT THE OOZORA HOUSEHOLD 〈SOME OF IT INCLUDED IN THE BONUS TRACK〉
January 24, 1983 issue

MAFIA CONNECTION
May 30, 1983 issue

TOMORROW'S BRIDE!?
June 6, 1983 issue

THE NEW FACE OF LOVE
September 5, 1983 issue

LOVE BOMBER!!
September 12, 1983 issue

A STRANGE LOVE △ (A STRANGE LOVE TRIANGLE)
September 19, 1983 issue

ON THE NIGHT OF THE FESTIVAL!!
September 26, 1983 issue

BOXING WITH ME!? 〈IN THIS BOOK, IT USES THE TITLE PAGE FROM "BET ON THE RING!!"〉
October 3, 1983 issue

BET ON THE RING!! 〈INCLUDED AS "TOMORROW'S HIBARI-KUN"〉
October 10, 1983 issue

TOMORROW'S HIBARI-KUN
October 17, 1983 issue

HELLO, HITMAN (PART 1)
October 24, 1983 issue

HELLO, HITMAN (PART 2)
October 31, 1983 issue

LOVE TRIANGLE!!
November 7, 1983 issue

WHO'S THE PRINCE AND THE PRINCESS!? 〈IN THIS BOOK, IT USES THE TITLE PAGE FROM "COUNT OUT OF LOVE"〉
November 14, 1983 issue

PANIC IN KOTOBUKI STUDIO!!
November 21, 1983 issue

TOUGH GUY GEKIJIROU!! (TOUGH GUY GEKIJIROU!! (PART 1)) 〈NEWLY CORRECTED AND REVISED VERSION INCLUDED〉
November 28, 1983 issue

* Serialized in "Weekly Shounen Jump" (Shueisha)
* The titles in parentheses are from when they were published in the magazine.

THE HIGHLY NOTORIOUS FINAL CHAPTER LEFT BEHIND THE LAST-DITCH EFFORT OF A LINE, "BOY'S MANGA IS DEAD...!", AND THE SERIES ENDED UP SUSPENDED RIGHT THEN AND THERE.

THE TRUTH IS, EVEN THOUGH I HAD DRAWN THE STORYBOARD UP TO THE TWIST AT THE TIME, I RAN OUT OF STEAM WITHOUT EVER REACHING THE END. INSTEAD OF "BOY'S MANGA" DYING, THE DISMAL OUTCOME WAS THAT IT WAS ME AS A "BOY'S MANGA AUTHOR" WHO HAD DIED.

SO WELL, ABOUT THAT STORYBOARD, THE TWIST ITSELF WAS VERY FITTING FOR A GAG MANGA. IN FACT, IT WAS REALLY ORDINARY, SO I DIDN'T THINK IT WAS WORTH IT TO GO OUT OF MY WAY TO DRAW IT AFTER 27 YEARS, BUT I DIDN'T WANT TO END THIS SO-CALLED "COMPLETE EDITION" WITH AN ABRUPT, CUT-OFF ENDING LIKE I DID BEFORE. AND SO, I PULLED OUT THE STORYBOARD FROM THAT TIME FROM THE BACK OF MY STACK OF WORK-RELATED MATERIALS, AND USED IT AS THE BASIS FOR THE COMPLETE EDITION OF "TOUGH GUY GEKIJIROU!!" IN THIS BOOK. ARE YOU SATISFIED NOW, MY 27-YEAR-OLD SELF?

FAR FROM THIS BEING AN AFTERWORD, IT'S MERELY A FEW REMARKS.

THAT SAID, IT DOESN'T CHANGE THE FACT THAT THIS SERIES IS UNFINISHED. HOWEVER, AS I WORKED ON THIS REISSUED EDITION, I KEPT THINKING THAT IT WOULDN'T BE SO BAD FOR THE MANGA "STOP!! HIBARI-KUN!" TO END WITH THIS.

THE POSSIBILITY OF ME SOMEDAY DRAWING WHAT LATER HAPPENED TO HIBARI OOZORA-KUN AND KOUSAKU SAKAMOTO-KUN ISN'T COMPLETELY OUT OF THE QUESTION, BUT THAT PROBABLY WOULDN'T BE A STORY UNDER THE TITLE "STOP!! HIBARI-KUN!"!

I'M UNSURE WHETHER THAT WOULD HAPPEN IN RESPONSE TO THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE VOICED THEIR DESIRE EVEN TO THIS DAY TO SEE A CONTINUATION OF THIS SERIES, BUT THESE ARE MY HONEST FEELINGS RIGHT NOW. IS THAT BAD?

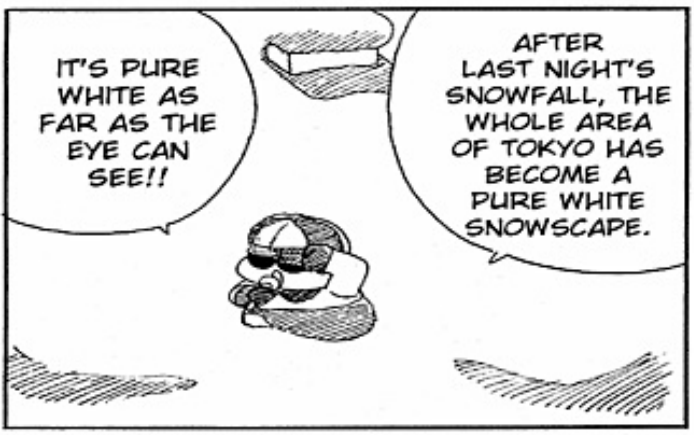
LASTLY, THANK YOU FOR BUYING THESE EXPENSIVE BOOKS. AHH, I'M TRULY FILLED WITH FEELINGS OF GRATITUDE! IF YOU ALWAYS KEEP THESE THREE VOLUMES WITH YOU, THERE'S NO GREATER HAPPINESS FOR AN AUTHOR.

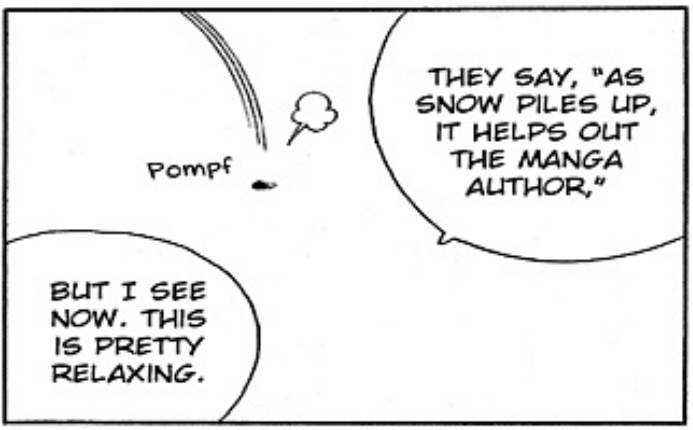
LATE FEBRUARY 2010

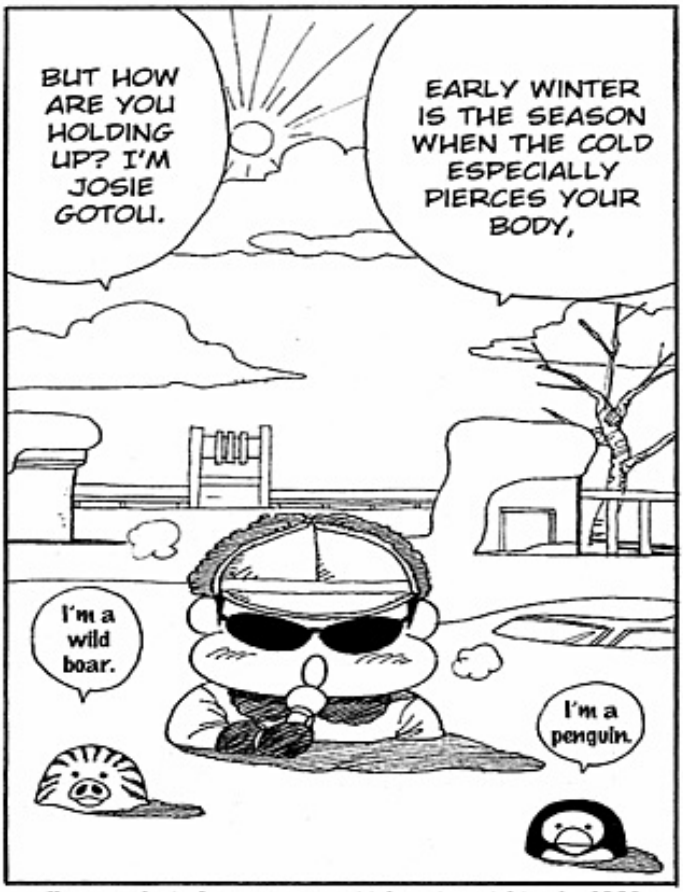
HISASHI EGUCHI

☆ AROUND THIS TIME, I DISCOVERED (WELL, NOT REALLY) THAT IF I LIGHTLY USED A MARKER, IT WOULD HAVE THE SAME EFFECT AS A SCREENTONE ONCE IT WAS PRINTED, AND SINCE IT WAS EASIER AND FASTER THAN USING SCREENTONES, I USED THIS TECHNIQUE A LOT FOR BACKGROUNDS. FOR THIS CHAPTER, ALTHOUGH I DIDN'T HAVE MUCH TIME, I GOT WAY TOO CARRIED AWAY WHEN I EVEN USED IT FOR THE TITLE PAGE. IT SCREAMS OF CUTTING CORNERS. I'M PRETTY SURE I DREW THIS IN ABOUT FIVE MINUTES.

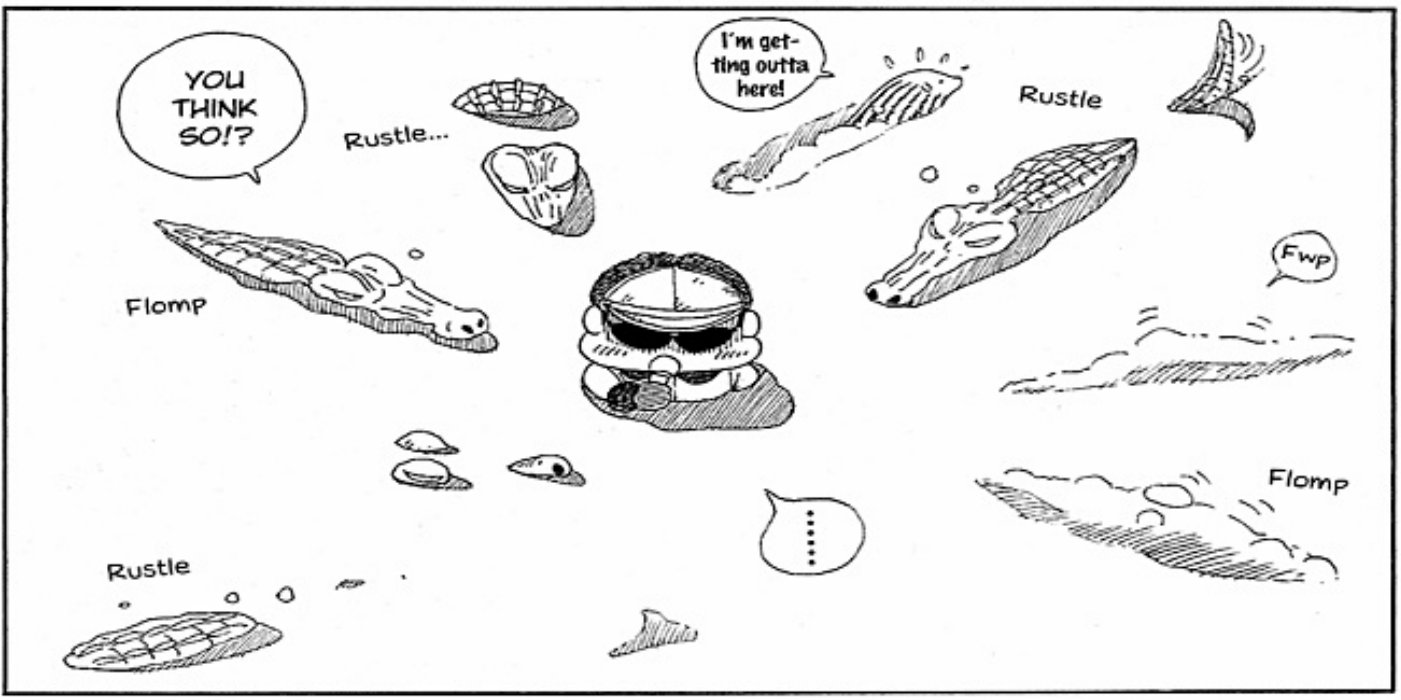
〈TITLE PAGE FOR "EVERYONE'S INVITED FOR CHRISTMAS" WHEN IT WAS PUBLISHED IN THE MAGAZINE〉


IT'S PURE WHITE AS FAR AS THE EYE CAN SEE!!
AFTER LAST NIGHT'S SNOWFALL, THE WHOLE AREA OF TOKYO HAS BECOME A PURE WHITE SNOWSCAPE.



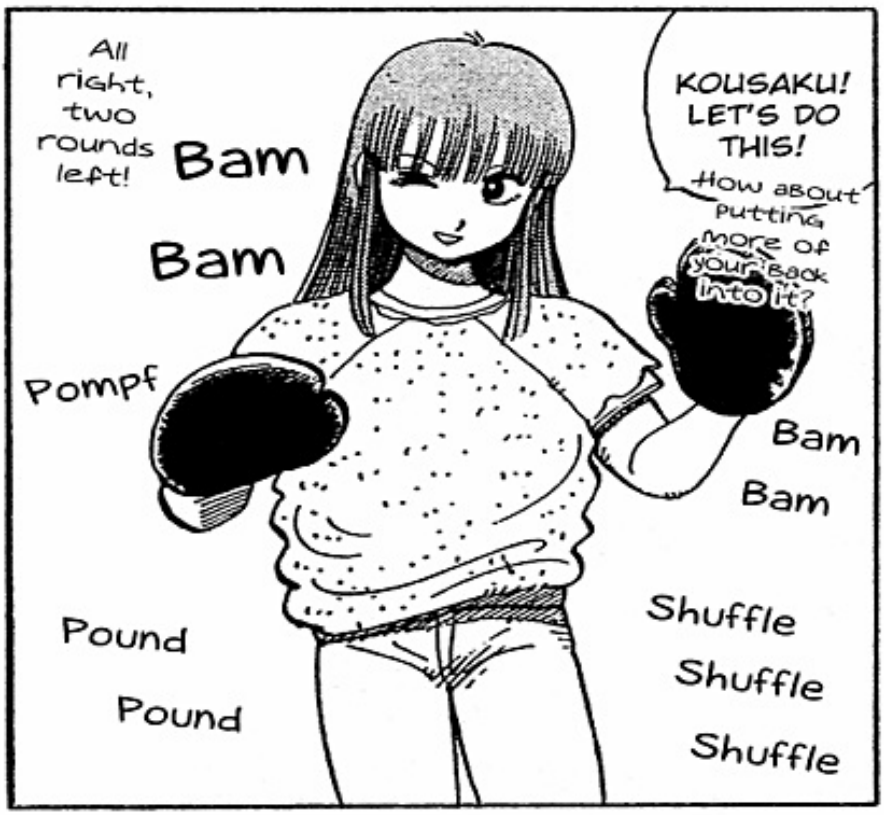

BUT HOW ARE YOU HOLDING UP? I'M JOSIE GOTOU.
EARLY WINTER IS THE SEASON WHEN THE COLD ESPECIALLY PIERCES YOUR BODY,
I'm a wild boar.
I'm a penguin.

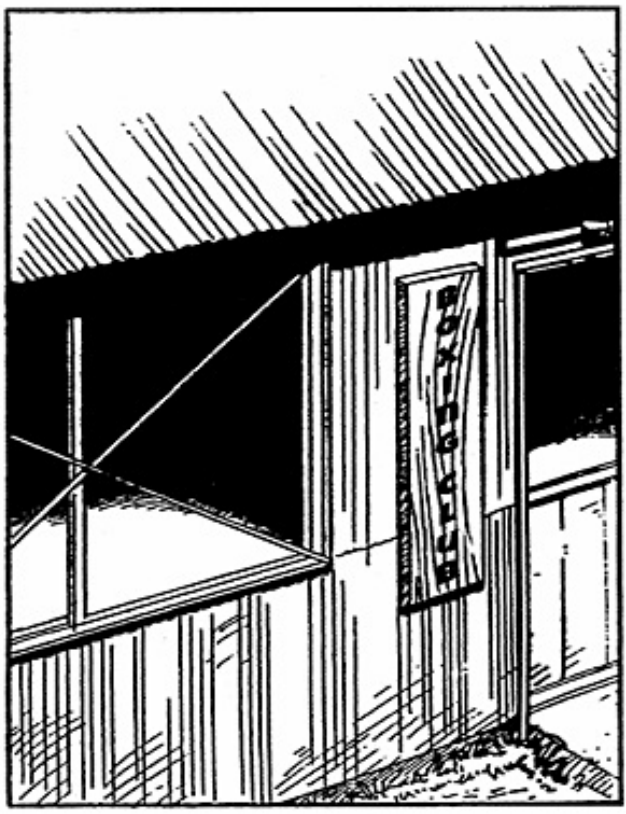
TL note: Josie Gotou was an idol and model in the 1980s.



☆ I WONDER HOW MANY TIMES I DREW THESE REPEATED GRUMBLINGS THAT READ LIKE INSIDE JOKES AND UNSIGHTLY EXCUSES. WAS I ONLY THINKING ABOUT "HOW CAN I CUT CORNERS?"!? "JOSIE GOTOU" WAS A SIGN OF THE TIMES, TOO. BUT THE PENGUIN AND WILD BOAR PIGLET WERE KIND OF CUTE.

〈"COUNT OUT OF LOVE"〉

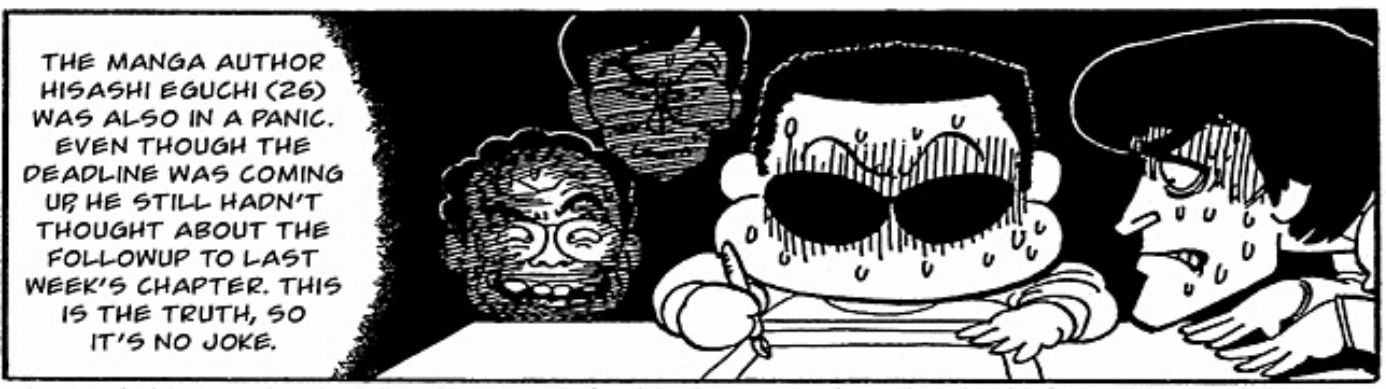




↑ What a pitiful face.

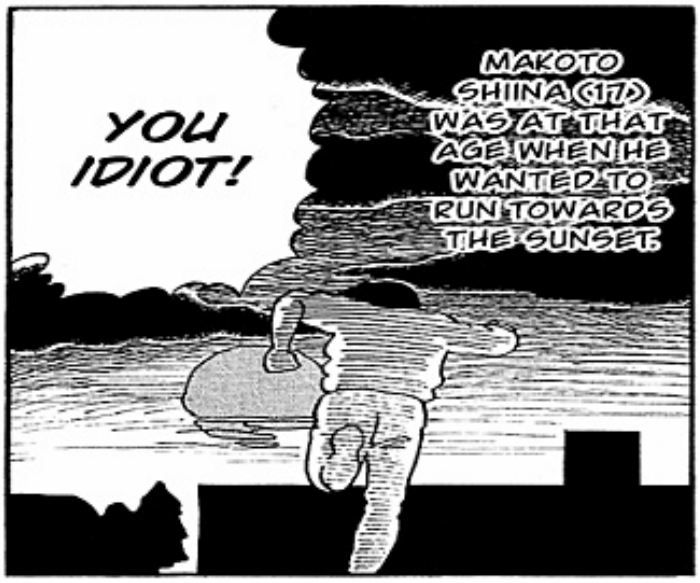
☆THIS IS A REJECTED PAGE FROM "COUNT OUT OF LOVE". IT'S A SCENE CONNECTED TO THE MIDDLE OF "THE NOTED COUPLE" IN THIS BOOK.

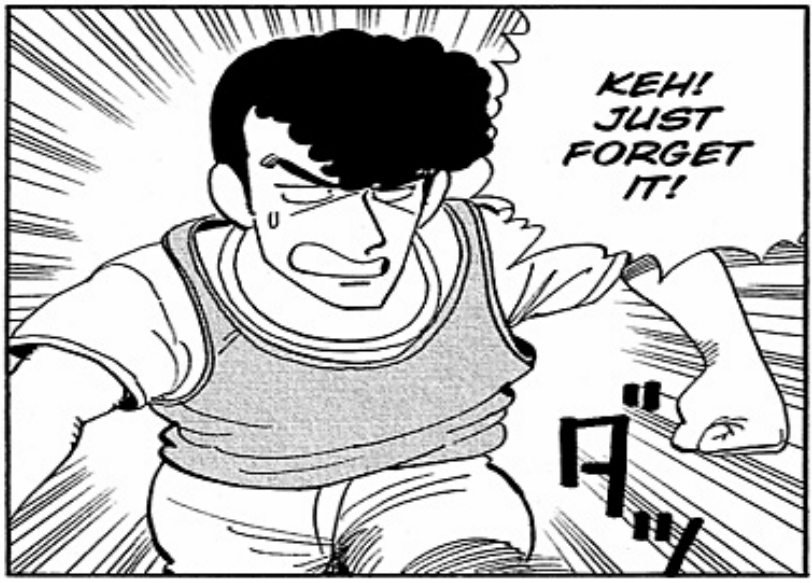
MITSUO KAJI, THE OLD MEMBER OF THE BOXING CLUB, WAS IN A PANIC. AS HARD AS HE TRIED, HE COULDN'T SAY THE LINE THAT FOLLOWED THE SCENE FROM LAST WEEK.


THE MANGA AUTHOR HISASHI EGUCHI (26) WAS ALSO IN A PANIC. EVEN THOUGH THE DEADLINE WAS COMING UP, HE STILL HADN'T THOUGHT ABOUT THE FOLLOWUP TO LAST WEEK'S CHAPTER. THIS IS THE TRUTH, SO IT'S NO JOKE.

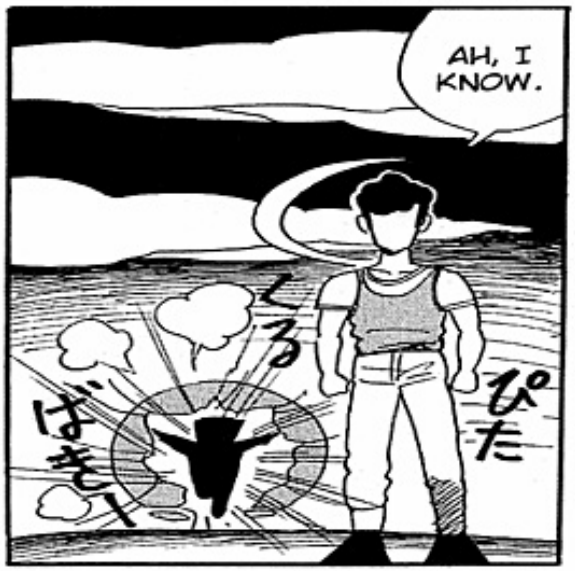
The two behind me that look like they're out of spirit photos are the editor-in-chief and the associate editor.

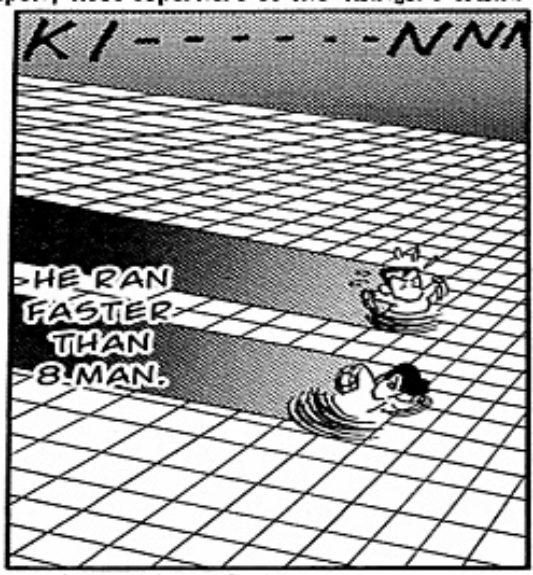
☆ THIS IS PRETTY PAINFUL. THE ONE NEXT TO THE AUTHOR IN THE FOURTH PANEL WITH A PIERCING STARE AS HE LOOKS OVER THE PROGRESS OF THE DRAFT WAS MY EDITOR AT THE TIME, MITSUO OKUWAKI A.K.A. WAKKY. THE FACES FLOATING IN THE BACKGROUND LIKE SPIRITS ARE THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF NISHIMURA AND THE ASSOCIATE EDITOR KAZUO NAKANO A.K.A. NOROWA.





TL note: 8 Man is the eponymous superhero of the manga 8 Man.





That's kind of old.

☆ PAGES 286 TO 294 ARE REJECTED PAGES FROM "EVERYONE'S INVITED FOR CHRISTMAS". THESE ARE THE SCENES LEADING UP TO "MERRY NINTH MEMORIAL SERVICE". THE FIFTH PANEL IS A REFERENCE TO THE DISNEY MOVIE "TRON" THAT WAS WELL-KNOWN FOR BEING THE WORLD'S FIRST MOVIE MADE WITH CG AT THE TIME.

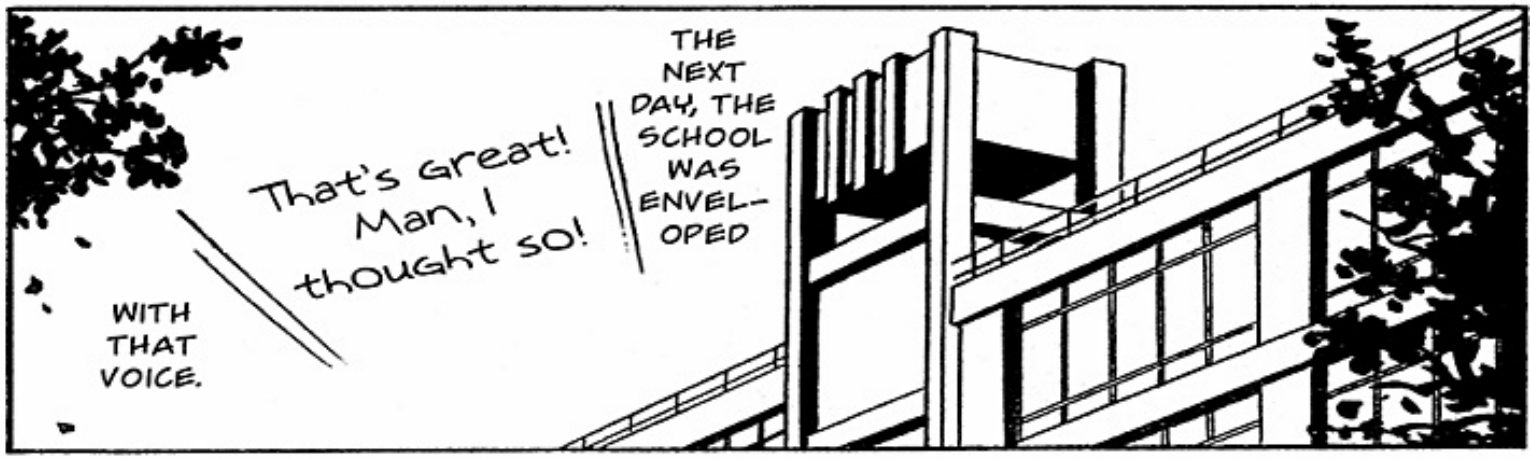
☆ IT WAS PRETTY FUN DRAWING SHIINA-KUN AND KOUSAKU-KUN YOUTHFULLY HAVING IT OUT WITH EACH OTHER.

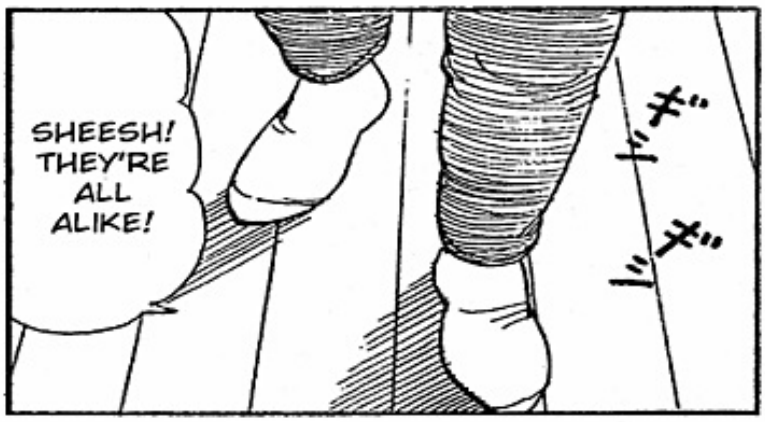
WHA !?
HOW FAR HAVE YOU MADE IT WITH HIBARI?
NOT AT ALL!!
YOU HAVEN'T MADE IT TO FIRST, SECOND OR THIRD BASE!?
NOTH-ING!!?
W...WE HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING!
YOU'RE NOT THAT SORT OF SMOOTH TYPE OF GUY, AFTER ALL!
WAHAHAHA! I SEE! IS THAT SO? I EXPECTED AS MUCH!
Fall!
YOU MO-RON.
What can I say?
Hahahaha! Oh! I see!
Wahaha!

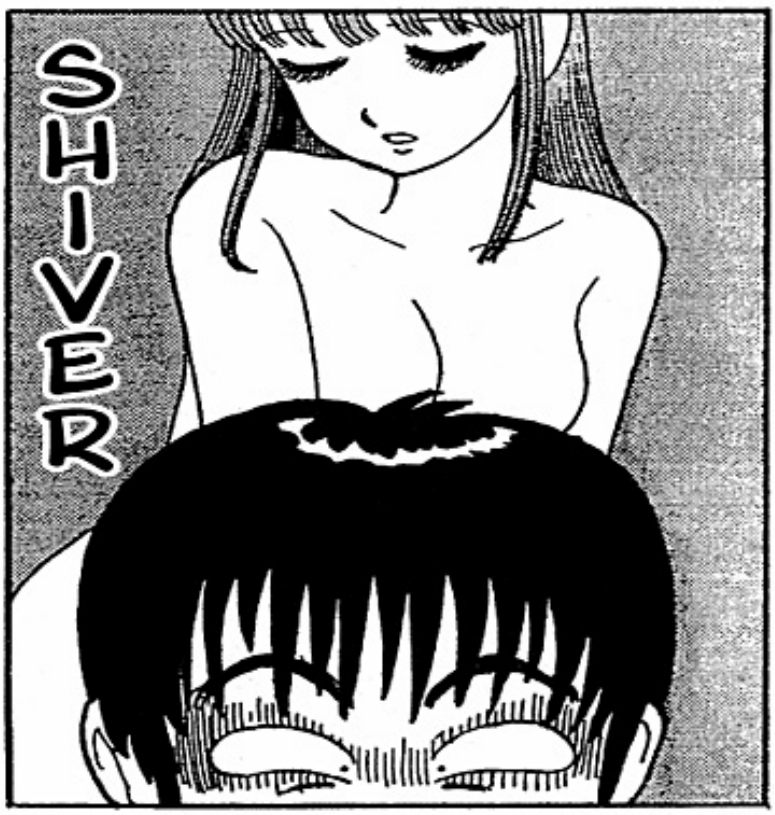
☆ HIGH SCHOOLERS BACK THEN CARED ABOUT HOW FAR OR NOT YOU HAD GONE. WHAT ABOUT TODAY?

EH HEH! EH HEH HEH HEH!
AH! WHAT A RELIEF.
IN OTHER WORDS, YOUR RELATION-SHIP ONLY GOES THAT FAR.
HEY, HIBARI!
SO THEN THERE'S STILL HOPE FOR ME, TOO!
Isn't that great, wild boar?
Wahahaha! That's great! Just great! Yeah!
That's awe-some!
At any rate, I'm glad! That's just great! Yeah!
HUH?
SO YOU STILL XXX...

☆ SHIINA-KUN'S PRETTY CUTE HERE. I'M SORRY THAT IT GOT REJECTED.







☆ THE "SHIVER" IN THE FINAL PANEL IS FROM THE DREAM SEQUENCE AT THE START OF "THE NOTED COUPLE" IN THIS BOOK.

DO YOU FEEL SICK?
WHAT'S WRONG, KOUSAKU?
.....
I'M OKAY, SUZUME-CHAN! I'M JUST FINE!
Don't yell!
DAD! KOUSAKU-KUN IS STRAINING TO HOLD DOWN THE FRONT OF HIS PANTS...!
All right! Yaaay! Yaaay!
YEAH, I'M THINKING OF THROWING A BIG PARTY THIS YEAR.
OH WOW! A CHRISTMAS PARTY!?
↑ What pitiful hands.
AH...
OH...
THIS YEAR IS YOUR MOM'S NINTH MEMORIAL SERVICE.

☆ AH, KOUSAKU-KUN'S GETTING HARD! THAT'S UNDERSTANDABLE SINCE HE'S YOUNG.

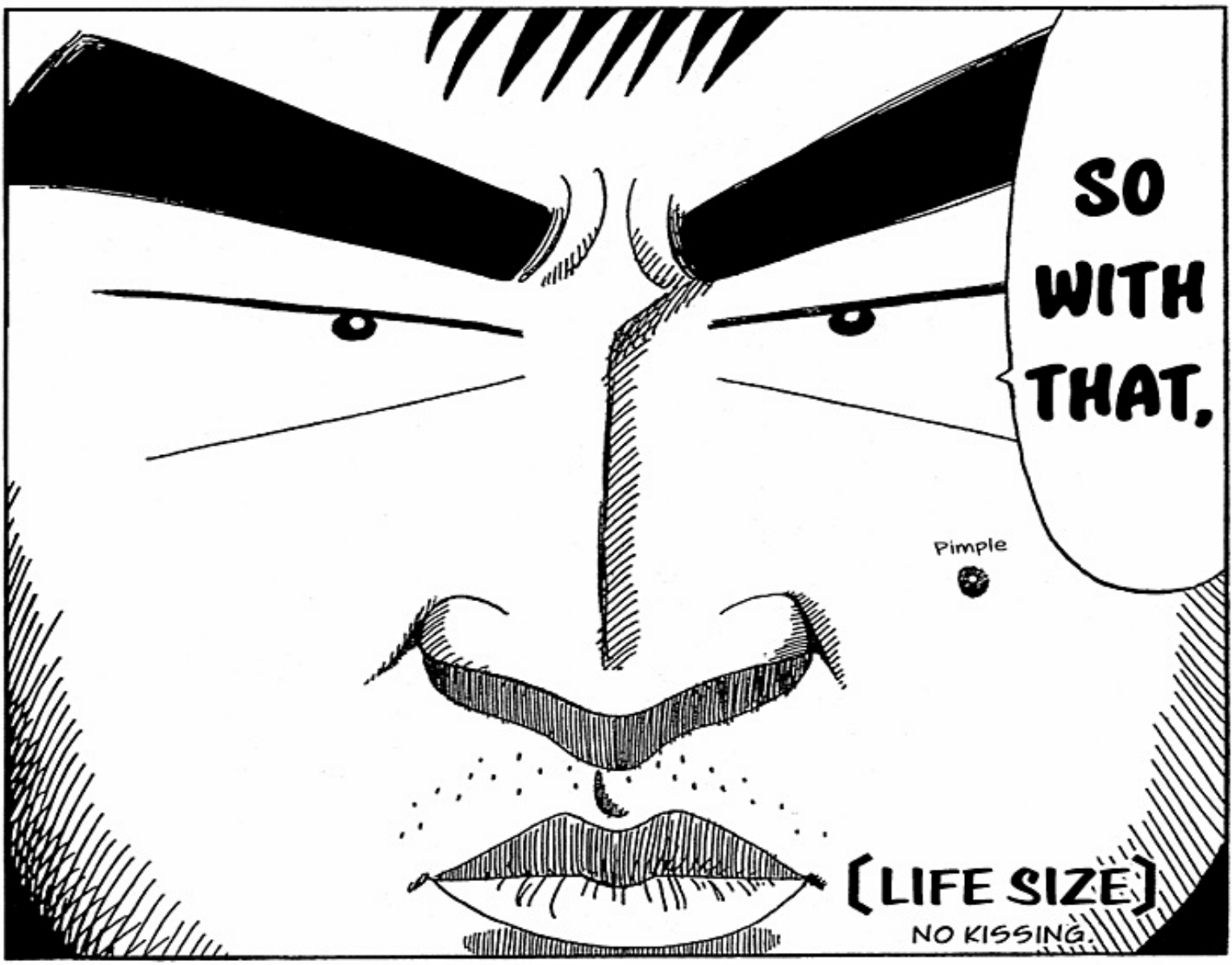
SUZUME'S BIRTHDAY IS ON THE SAME DAY THAT MOM DIED, AFTER ALL.
THERE WAS A LOT OF SNOW THAT NIGHT.
OH, YEAH. IT WAS DURING CHRISTMAS TEN* YEARS AGO.
Silence
YOU'RE RIGHT!!
YEAH! LET'S ALL JUST CHEER UP!
ぽっ
BUT IF WE'RE ALWAYS DEPRESSED, YOUR MOTHER'S GONNA FEEL SAD, TOO.
.....
SO IT'S BEEN TEN YEARS...
Solemn
Y-YEAH! LET'S GO ALL OUT AND CELEBRATE HER NINTH MEMORIAL SERVICE!
COME ON, LET'S DO IT! MOM LOVED HAVING A GOOD TIME DURING FESTIVALS!

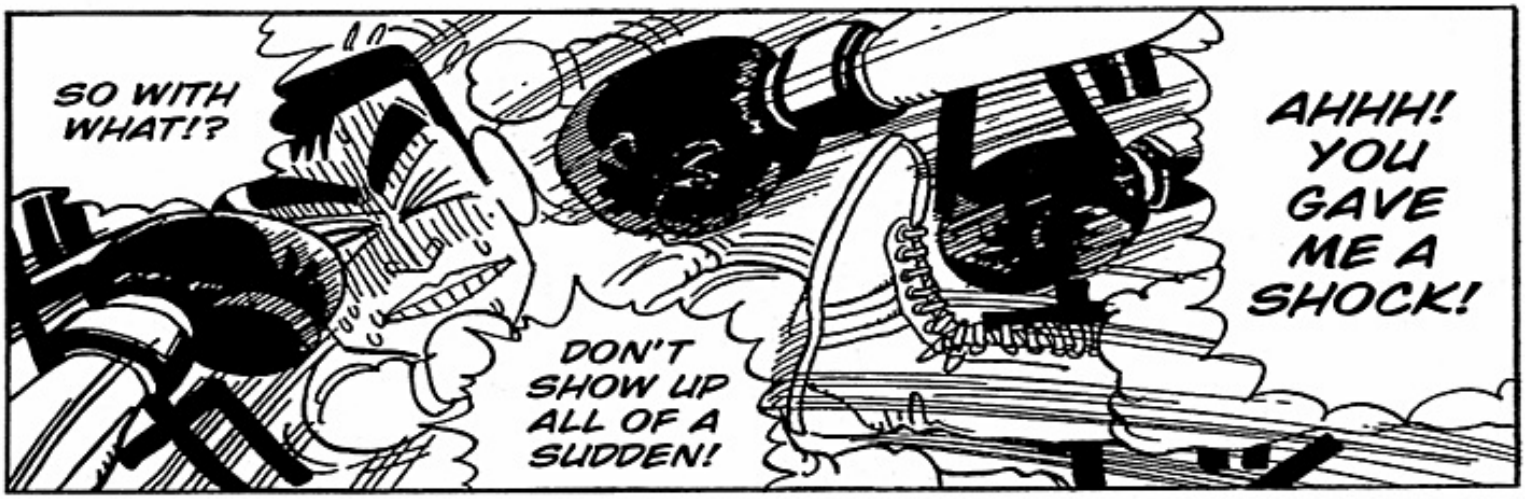
☆ THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT THE MEANING BEHIND "MERRY NINTH MEMORIAL SERVICE" IN THIS BOOK.

*TL note: In Buddhist tradition, the ninth memorial service (as in nine years since the date of death) is called "10-kaiki", or "10th death anniversary" because this includes the date of death as the "first" anniversary and counts up from there. So if it's been 10 years since their mom died, they would actually be observing it as "11-kaiki" or "11th death anniversary", so this is either a typo, or a misunderstanding of Buddhist traditions.

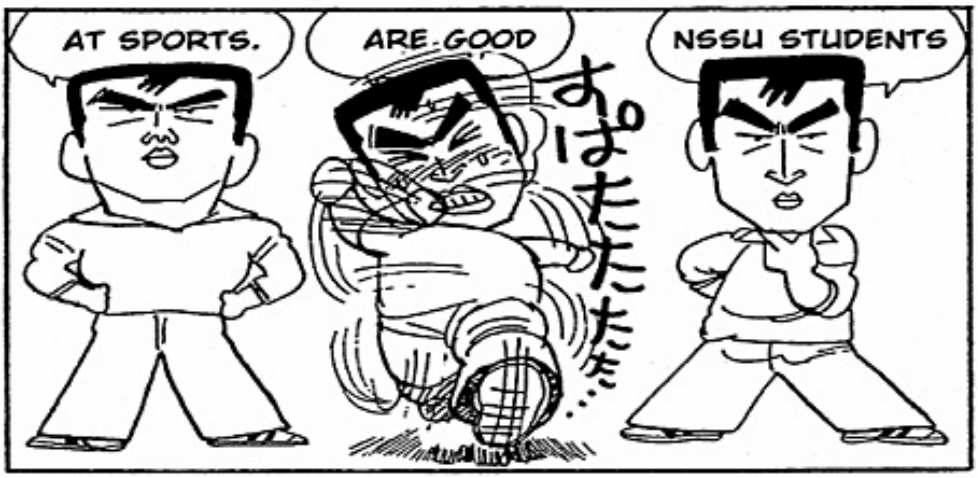
Silence...
ISN'T IT KIND OF INAPPROPRIATE...TO SAY WE'RE CELEBRATING HER NINTH MEMORIAL SERVICE?
I SHOULD INVITE KAWAI-SAN.
AH, COME TO THINK OF IT,
NO WAY! YOU MEAN SHIINA, TOO? YOU DON'T HAVE TO INVITE THAT GUY.
WELL, HE SAID IT WAS OKAY TO INVITE A LOT OF OUR FRIENDS, SO LET'S INVITE THE GUYS FROM THE BOXING CLUB!
WOULDN'T IT BE MORE FUN WITH A BUNCH OF PEOPLE?
THE STORY CONTINUES NEXT WEEK WITH THE SENSE THAT IT WON'T JUST END WITHOUT SOMETHING HAPPENING.
HAVE A NICE DAY!
AND SO WITH A CHRISTMAS PARTY TO BE HELD AT THE OOZORA HOUSEHOLD,
WE'LL SEE YOU LATER!

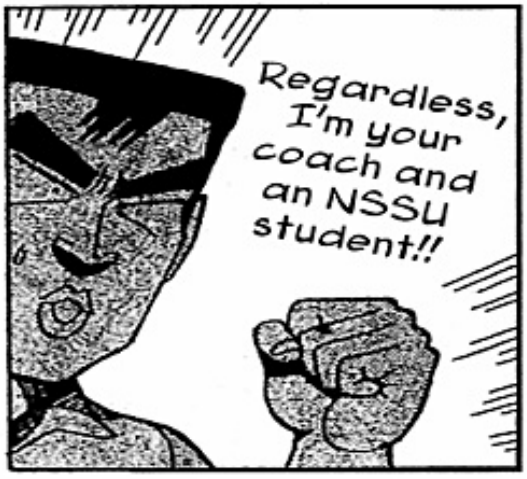
☆ THIS IS HOW IT CONTINUES INTO "MERRY NINTH MEMORIAL SERVICE". I REUSED THE LAST PANEL AT THE BEGINNING OF THAT CHAPTER!

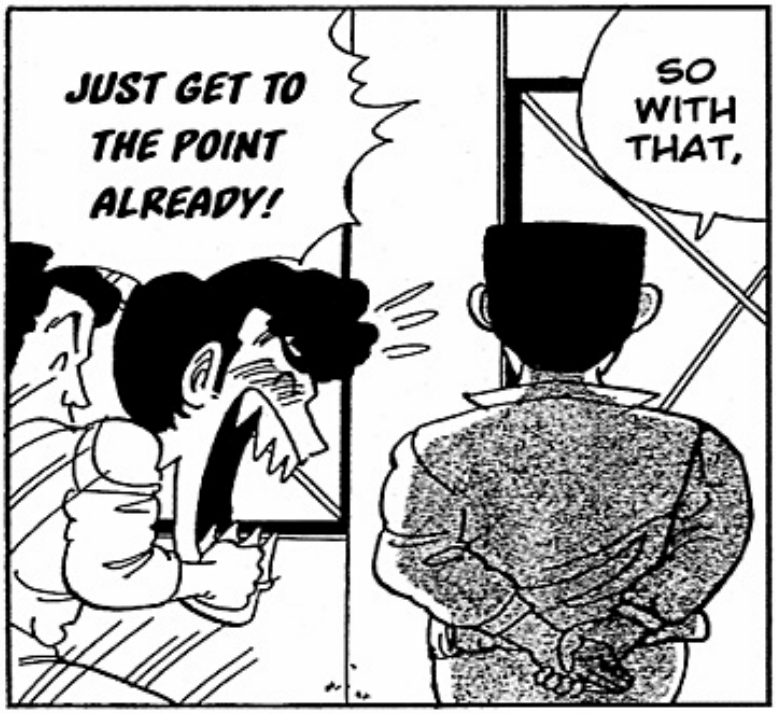




☆ THIS PAGE AND THE NEXT TWO ARE REJECTED PAGES FROM "BET ON THE RING!!" ("BOXING WITH ME!?" IN THIS BOOK). THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO EVEN IF YOU TELL ME THAT IT'S NOT [LIFE SIZE] UNLESS IT'S THE SIZE OF A MAGAZINE.



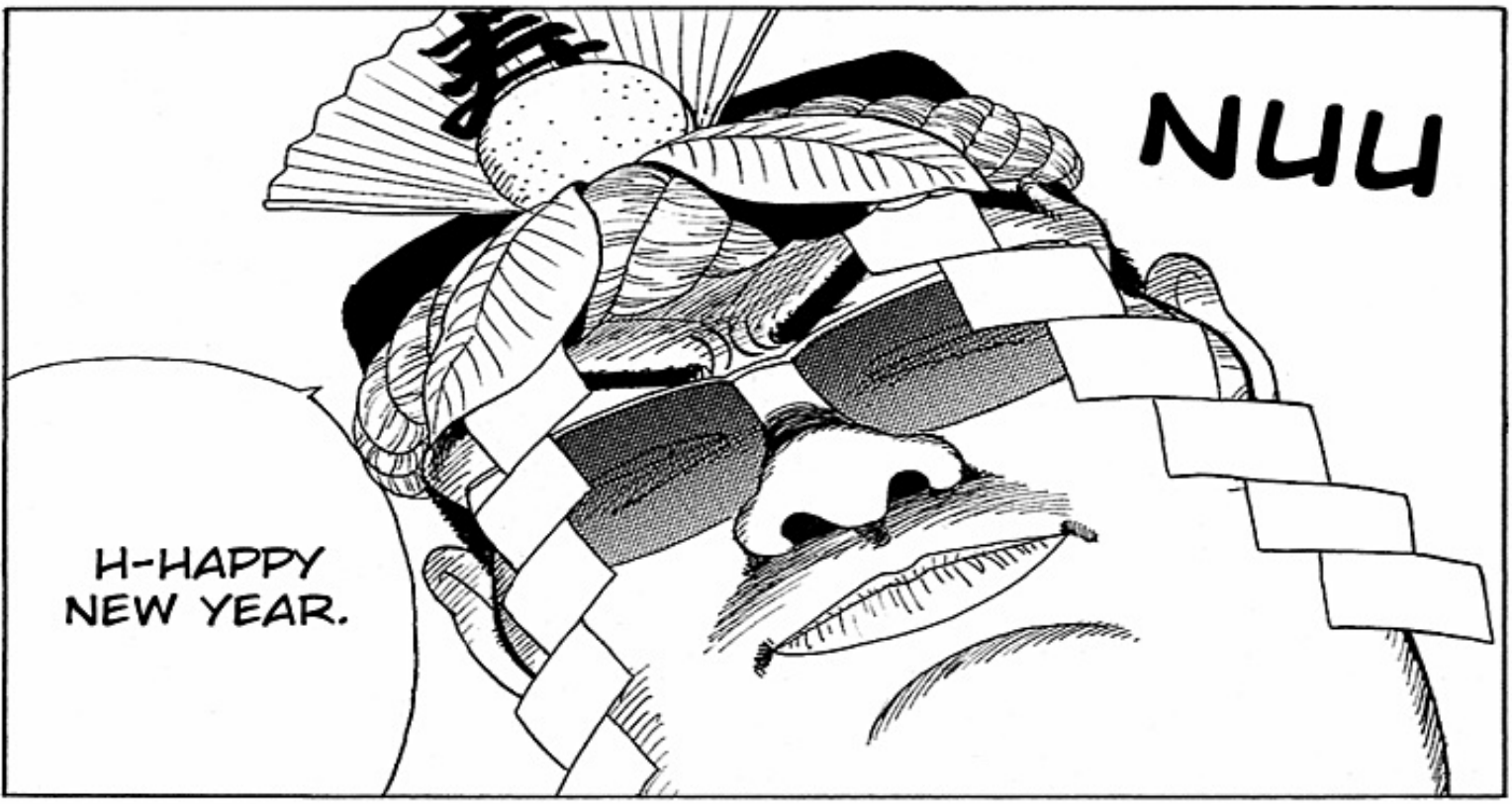


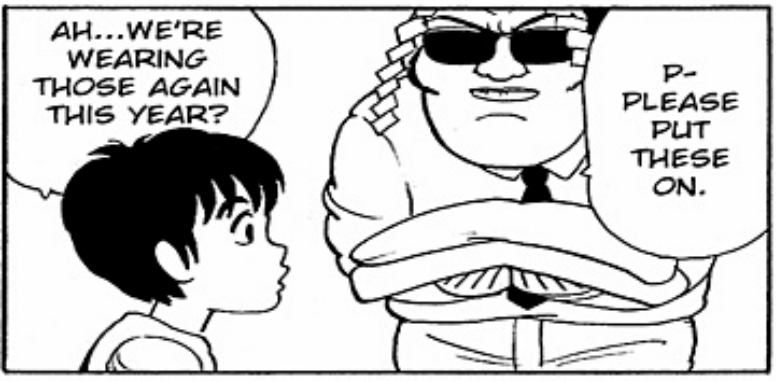


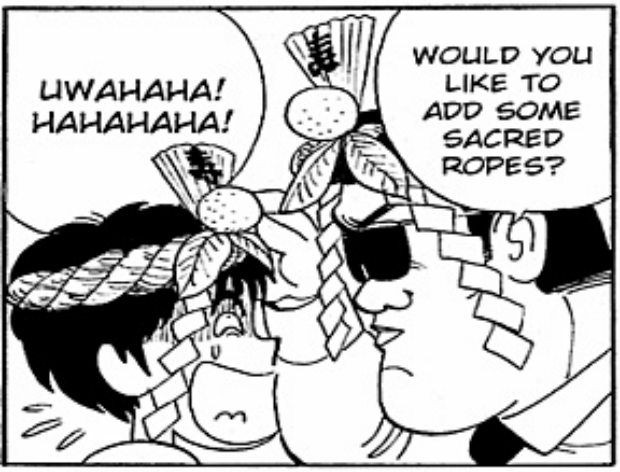
☆ HMM, KAJI-SENPAI IS SO INCESSANT. OF COURSE THIS WOULD GET REJECTED.

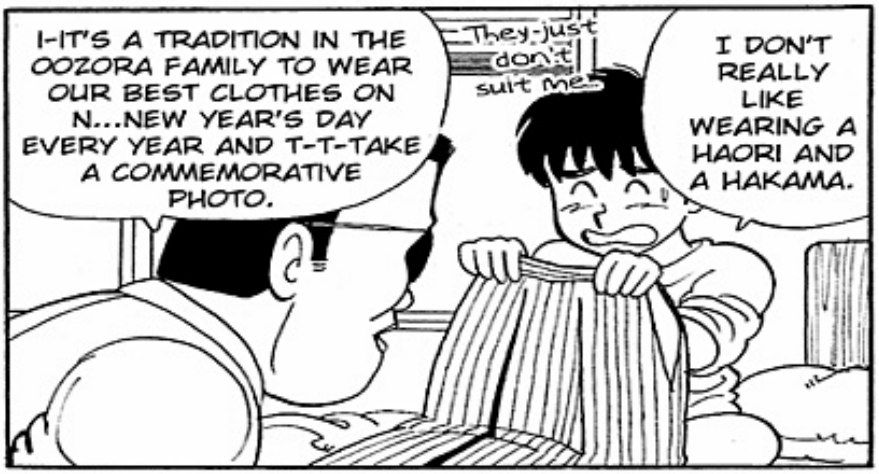
THE TRUTH IS, THOSE GUYS GAVE ME THIS LETTER.
THEY'RE NOT HERE TODAY. THEY'RE TRAINING BY THEMSELVES AT HOME.
Tsk!
WHERE ARE SAKAMOTO AND OOZORA-KUN?
I'm sure he's gonna give that to others! How sad!
Did you see that? It was a chain letter! Pffft!
It's this one.
AH, MY MISTAKE!
Rum Mage
This is a chain letter. If you receive this letter, please give postcards with the contents of this letter to 48 people you know within 24 hours. An Iranian oil magnate who blew this off and made fun of superstitious beliefs died of cancer six months later.
TAKE A LOOK AT IT.
WHAT THE HELL IS THIS!?
Huuuh? Are you kidding me?
Chatter
THIS IS IT!
We nominate Hibari Oozora-chan and Sakamoto-kun as our opponents. Let's have some good matches! Kokuryuu Boxing Club

☆HMM, A LETTER OF MISFORTUNE. THAT'S SO OLD, KAJI-SENPAI. NOWADAYS, WOULD THAT BE SIMILAR TO A CHAIN LETTER?





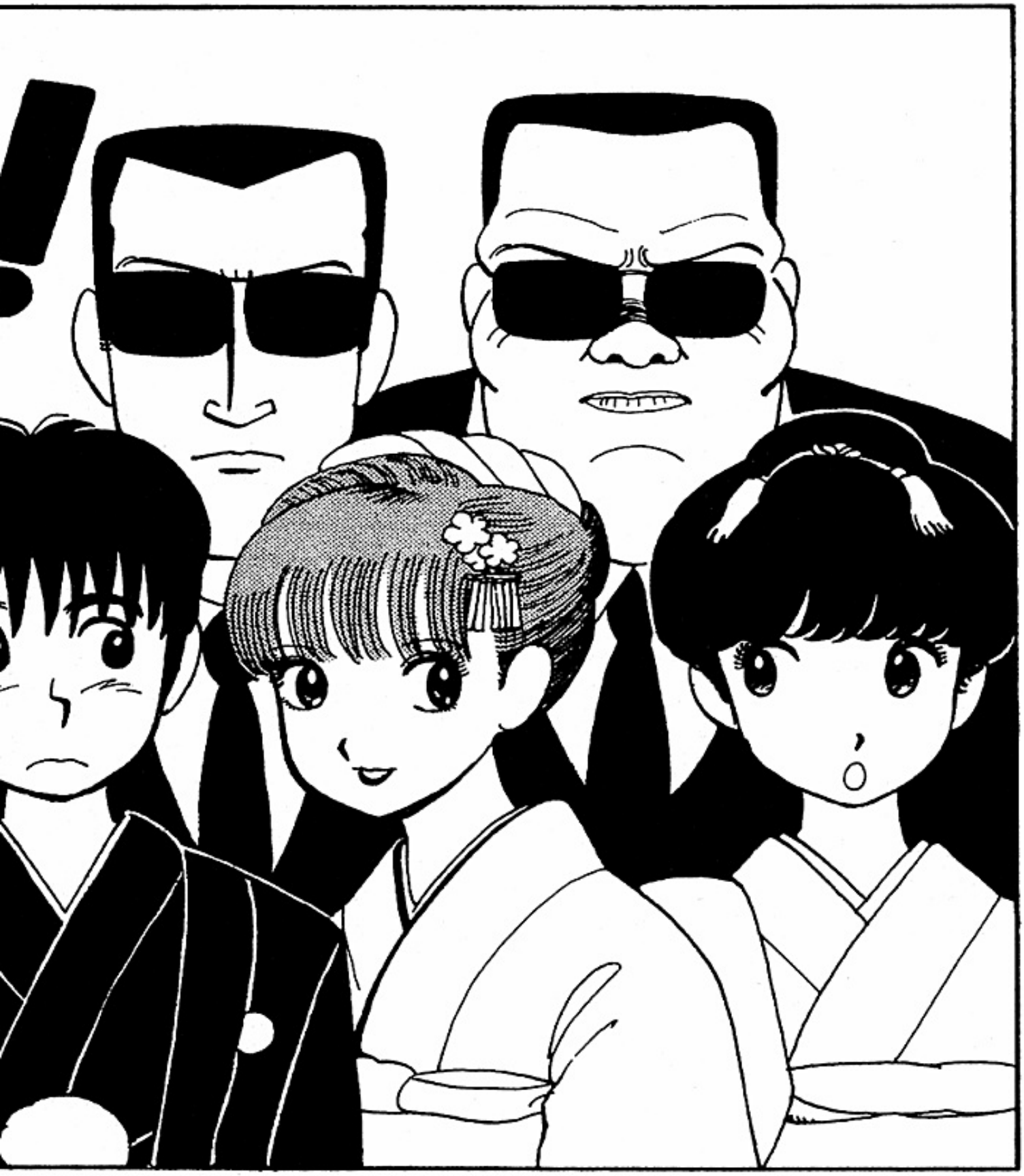



I-IT'S A TRADITION IN THE OOZORA FAMILY TO WEAR OUR BEST CLOTHES ON N...NEW YEAR'S DAY EVERY YEAR AND T-T-TAKE A COMMEMORATIVE PHOTO.
They just don't suit me...
I DON'T REALLY LIKE WEARING A HAORI AND A HAKAMA.

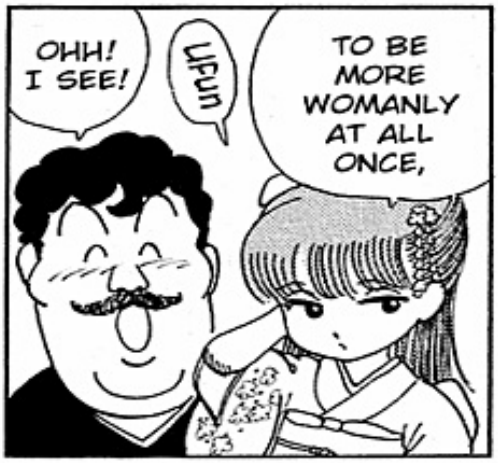
☆ THIS PAGE AND THE NEXT FOUR ARE REJECTED PAGES FROM "IT'S NEW YEAR'S! AT THE OOZORA HOUSEHOLD". SEIJI-SAN'S GRADUAL ESCALATION WITH HIS CLOSE UP APPEARANCES IS A TECHNIQUE CALLED A "REPEATED GAG". (DON'T SAY IT.)

☆ AT LEAST DRAW THE PATTERN ON HIBARI-KUN'S KIMONO! .....UM, IF YOU WANT, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO DRAW IT IN YOURSELF.

☆IT'S WEIRD THAT EACH OF THE FOUR SISTERS (STRICTLY SP
.....UM, IF YOU WANT, PLEASE FINISH THEM.



EAKING, FOUR SIBLINGS) ARE WEARING A PURE WHITE KIMONO!



☆ I MIGHT HAVE THOUGHT IT STILL LOOKED PRETTY SHODDY, SO I ADDED A PATTERN JUST TO SUZUME-CHAN'S KIMONO...

OH MY GOSH! THANK YOU!
New Year's Gift!
ばっ
NONETHELESS, I'M NO MATCH FOR ONE OF MY CUTE DAUGHTERS! HERE!
WHAT? YOU'RE ACTING LIKE THAT EVEN NOW THAT YOU'RE IN COLLEGE?
DAD, I'LL ALSO RESPECT MY ELDERS.
WAHAHA! I'M NO MATCH FOR ONE OF MY CUTE DAUGHTERS!
KISS
THANK YOU! I LOVE YOU, DAD!♡
What can I say?
HMM? OHH! I SEE!
I'LL ALSO BE GOOD THIS YEAR AND TRY NOT TO WORRY YOU, DAD.
さっ
New Year's Gift!!
AHH! IT'S HARD TO RUN IN THIS.
ずだどどどど
WHO THE HELL AM I CALLING MY DAUGHTER !?
はたたたた

☆THIS IS WHERE IT ENDS. EVEN THOUGH IT'S A JOYOUS NEW YEAR'S DAY, I'M VERY SORRY ABOUT THIS ENDING.

☆THIS WAS THE TITLE PAGE FOR "WHO'S THE PRINCE AND THE PRINCESS!?" WHEN IT WAS PUBLISHED IN THE MAGAZINE. THIS WAS USED TO ANNOUNCE AN EVENT WHERE 100 READERS WOULD RECEIVE THE ORIGINAL SWEATSHIRT I PERSONALLY MADE AND DISTRIBUTED AMONG MY FRIENDS.

Hachimitsu Scans
~sweeter than honey~
hachi

~
mitsu-scans.blogspot.com